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LA NACION COMMENTS ON REAGAN CAMPAIGN, PRESIDENCY

PY211408 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 20 Jan 81 p 8

[Editorial: "Reagan's Assumption of the Presidency"]

[Text] Ronald Reagan's coming to power provokes two types of reflections; those that concern the United States and those that concern the international scene.

During the U.S. election campaign there was a lot of discussion as to which of these two aspects, the internal or the external, was the decisive one in the eyes of the voters. For the majority, including those who promoted Reagan's candidacy, the internal situation was the determining factor, a situation loaded with problems, especially in the economic sector. From this point of view, the debate offered numerous and varied questions involving every imaginable sector of U.S. society--resources, race, religion, ideology, geographic and community distribution, age, civil rights, etc. Nevertheless, amid all of this, economic deterioration resulting in inflation, a high cost of living and high unemployment was the only subject on which there emerged a consensus.

But the fact cannot be forgotten that such an extensive debate demonstrated the enormous discontent regarding the U.S. way of life. In this sense, the most notable and alarming indication is demonstrated by the degree of skepticism revealed by the ever-increasing electoral absenteeism. Only 52 percent of the voters voted in the 4 November elections, something which places representativity at the edge of legitimacy.

In this respect an observation must be made: Both the North Americans of the right and those of the left believe in democracy. The division between conservatives and liberals is not even a classification that can be attributed to the two large trends--Republican and Democratic--that make up the two-party system; conservatives and liberals are observed in both of these parties. The choice between Reagan and Carter was based on the efficiency of the democratic government.

Carter could not atone for his errors and failures due to a lack of credibility. Neither could he discourage the desire for change, for which the conservative principles that Reagan represents are more appropriate.

Thus, regarding internal affairs, Reagan is basically the hope for a series of coherent readjustments--which must not be confused, as he recently indicated, with the illusion of a quick improvement in the economic and social sectors.

Regarding foreign affairs, the expectations of the North Americans are also complex. They are still under the shadow of Vietnam and the humiliation caused by Iran, made even worse by the hostages, Soviet expansion, the loss of authority and confidence with regard to their allies and, in sum, a feeling of frustration and decadence.

Reagan proposes as corrective measures the recovery of power in the confrontation with the USSR and good judgment when dealing with the nations that are traditional or potential U.S. allies.

Truly, what is important is that these two policies be proportionately applied to the remnants of the absolute bipolar system that still exists within the international framework and to the remaining situations that are commonly called peripheral situations, because the U.S. flag cannot prevail at the expense of the national interests of the countries that, together with it, feel the call to become members of the free world by their own determination.

EL DIARIO ON IMPORTANCE OF REAGAN PRESIDENCY

PY212324 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 20 Jan 81 p 2

[Editorial: "A New U.S. President"]

[Text] At noon today the United States will have a new administration. Now, in compliance with the decision of the people, it is the turn of the Republican Party to be in power. The Democrats, their adversaries, were literally removed from power through the votes of American citizens. But this is not an unusual case in democratic systems.

The reason for Reagan's victory and Carter's defeat have been extensively discussed by political observers and journalists in a convincing manner. During the Carter administration the United States became a second-rate nation regarding its military power, and its ever-increasing financial and economic problems. It was moreover declining with its hesitating foreign policy and because of an incredible incapacity to solve the situation of the U.S. hostages in Iran. The out-going president may be blamed for being--despite himself--a secret ally of dogmatic leftist expansion movements in several countries, particularly in Central American countries. These facts were fuly evaluated by the American voters who overwhelmingly rejected Carter's second term. Mistakes and political errors cost dearly and the U.S. Democrats can prove it.

Political observers and all those who are watching for any possible changes in the leadership of international democracy have noted the significant events that may occur in the free world as a result of the assumption of power of the Democratic Party [as published] in the United States. There may be a change of policy regarding armaments; there may be changes in international policy; there may also be changes on the expansion of Marxist totalitarism and its restraint; also changes on economiy aid, and--why not say--new decisions that will have an impact on world balance and world peace, the tensions or spiritual disarmament that will serve as a basis for a new era or at least one having more precise objectives.

The OAS member countries have already expressed at both domestic and international levels their concern over their economic relations with the United States. They have put emphasis on those areas that may be of interest in the immediate future such as economic aid and cooperation, and foreign policy. A natural question is whether the new administration will reassert the Carter administration's conflicting, passionate and stubborn foreign policy. The Republicans will have to decide whether this policy has been effective or harmful and compare it with the guidelines they have drafted during their victorious election campaign.

Undoubtedly there will be some changes, but it would be exaggerated to think that these will be radical. U.S. democracy has its own mechanisms in cooperation with the congress and in compliance with its own institutional ways. But there will undoubtedly be changed that will give a different tone to the foreign policy that the United States will follow toward those countries that share the same democratic path.

The administration that starts to work today in Washington has opened a new stage in international policy with smaller nations. The eyes of all the peoples of the world are on the new administration and it will be its first actions that will tell these people whether there is ground for optimism with confidence in its actions or pessimism with doubt.

It must be said however that a lot is expected from this administration, perhaps too much. But it is a beginning and any beginning means there is a new hope.

PRESENCIA NOTES CONCERN OVER DECREASED U.S. AID

PY211846 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 18 Jan 81 p 3

[Editorial: "The Future of U.S. Foreign Aid"]

[Text] The Latin American countries have voiced their concern over the future of U.S. economic and technical aid. This subject is given so much importance that it is quite probable that the OAS will hold special meetings to discuss it, once it has more information on which to base its opinion. It should be pointed out that this fear is based on solid facts and past events and is not mere speculation.

The first thing that must be recalled is that the Republican Party has a traditional policy of restrictions on foreign aid. The Democratic Party has always been more openhanded and realistic in its aid to underdeveloped countries, among which are the Latin American countries. Now there are other factors which must be taken into account. It is an almost unanimous opinion that Carter was defeated for two main reasons: the serious U.S. economic situation and the success of the Soviet Union's plans for expansion and intervention.

For several years the U.S. economy has been suffering from serious inflation, unemployment and even instability in some sectors. Carter was unable to solve these problems and there was no faith in his future actions; therefore, a change of man and party in power was necessary with the hopes that they would be able to carry out a plan which would rescue or at least attenuate the crisis. It was also necessary to put an end to the advances of communism, to acquire the arms to intimidate and, should it become necessary, to fight back in accordance with the traditional Republican fighting spirit.

As a consequence Reagan has promised to try and fulfill two fundamental purposes, among others: to reduce taxes to the limit of 30 percent--this will increase the citizens' purchasing power and will reactivate the economy--and to increase spending to increase the U.S. readiness for war.

This means that, on one hand, income will decrease but, on the other, spending on the largest item of the federal budget will increase. It is obvious that to resolve this spending on other items regarded as less important or urgent will have to be eliminated or reduced.

According to the statements which have already been made we already know in which sector the savings will be made. One of them is in foreign economic and technical aid. Latin America is aware of this--hence its concern. It is quite certain that the foreign aid that will continue to be granted will take special care to supply arms to those areas which are more threatened by Soviet infiltration; therefore, it is obvious that attention will turn to Asia and Africa.

If the Latin American nations do not take any coordinated action, it is most probable that U.S. aid--granted directly or indirectly, that is to say, through international organizations--will decrease considerably. Carter already had a draft budget, but it is certain that it will be altered once the new president opens the new congress, in which the Republican influence increased in the last elections. This situation must be taken into account as a starting point, although for the time being we are unaware of the details of the measures which the new administration will take.

GOVERNMENT DESCRIBES PLOT; SUBVERSIVES WARNED

'Subversive Plot'

PY210242 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1817 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] La Paz, 20 Jan (LATIN)--The Bolivian military government reported today that it has thwarted an extensive subversive plot with international connections which had the objective of staging an uprising and taking over power in the country.

In an open letter that was published today in all Bolivian papers, the military government officially states that this plot was directly related to the clash that took place last Thursday in La Paz in which eight civilians and a policemen were killed. A ninth civilian whose death was publicized only in the obituary page of the local papers, was also listed in the official statement. He was officially identified as Ricardo Martin Navarro Mogro, alias, "Felipe."

The government statement seems to be an answer to a request made last Saturday by Msgr Jorge Manrique, the La Paz archbishop, who said that the government should give more information on the clash that took place on Thursday.

In today's statement, the government that took power on 17 July 1980 after it ousted former President Lidia Gueiler states that at least two former Bolivian presidents, and several military, police and civilian officials were to be killed in a "systematic and selective terrorist operation."

The government bases its charges on reports issued by the national intelligence and security forces that are controlled by the Interior Ministry.

The government attributed this plot to the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR). The majority of those killed in the recent clash were members of the MIR.

Among the "international connections" listed in the government statement are "the Peruvian APRA party; other political parties from Ecuador, and the French Socialist Party." According to the report, the operation obtained its "economic support" from organizations such as the European social democracy, the Danish labor movement, the Sandinist Liberation Front, the Colombian socialist movement, the El Salvador revolutionary organization front, the Montoneros movement from Argentina and the international human rights movement.

The first stage of the subversive plan that has been disrupted included the "establishment and coordination of clandestine groups." These groups were later to continue perpetrating other terrorist activities, among which were the killing of government officials during a dinner that was to take place in January in a La Paz residential area.

Although the government statement did not list the names of the "government officials" mentioned in the alleged terrorist plan, it included a list of civilian, military, police, labor union and other personalities "who were to be victims of the terrorist plan."

Among others, the victims are: former President Victor Paz Estenssoro, the veteran leader of the once powerful Nationalist Revolutionary Movement (MNR); Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez, who governed Bolivia for 7 years as a representative of the armed forces (1971-1978); Gen Roberto Quinteros, the national chief of police; Col Raul Lopez Leyton, former interior minister (1979); Col Alberto Natusch Busch, who in November 1979 headed a military coup; Gen Hugo Echeverria, former commander of II Corps in Santa Cruz; Raul Salmon, present mayor of La Paz; Marcelo Perez, president of the Bolivian Private Businessmen's Confederation; Oscar Pena Franco, former information minister during the Gueiler government; Jorge Siles Salinas, a diplomat and writer; Guillermo Bedregal, former foreign minister under the short-lived government of Col Natusch Busch; Benjamin Miguel, leader of the Christian democracy; and (Robert) Fusche, minister councillor of the U.S. Embassy in Bolivia.

The alleged subversive plan was to create "a movement of the masses to take over power through armed insurrection" and "to control police and military units, to structure a popular militia movement."

The official statement charged that Jose Gonzalo Alejandro Reyes Carvajal, alias "Gustavo," who was one of the civilians killed in the clash with the security forces, was the leader of the plot.

Oruro Garrison Communique

PA211759 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] The public relations office of the 2d Army Division headquarters in Oruro has released a communique.

The three-point military communique begins by harshly criticizing the subversive criminals of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] who have attempted to create an atmosphere of chaos, anarchy and terrorism in the country against prominent government members.

The communique then warns all Bolivians not to let themselves be taken by surprise by those individuals who are only seeking the dissolution of the country, but to immediately report them to the appropriate authorities, thus safeguarding the sovereignty and integrity of the nation.

The headquarters of the 2d Army Division in Oruro concludes its communique by warning that persons who are caught trying to stir up unrest among the population will be ruthlessly punished according to the provisions of military law.

Sucre Prefect's Warning

PY211813 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 2100 Jan 81

[Text] Sucre--Col Romulo Mercado, prefect of Chuquisaca Department, has given a stern warning to all those who try to disturb the tranquillity of the people of the department. He added that those people should not mistake his policy of dialogue for weakness and that he and the state security organizations will sally into the streets in case of need, in order to drastically suppress any attempt to disturb order.

Colonel Mercado (Garnica) told the Sucre news media that he knows all the movements of the politicians and confirmed that he will not permit his policy of dialogue with the people to be mistaken for a sign of weakness.

BOLIVIA DECLINES TO HOST ANDEAN EDUCATION MEETING

PY211243 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Bolivia has decided not to host the meeting of Andean Pact education ministers. This announcement was made by Education and Culture Minister Ariel Coca Aguirre, who explained to local newsmen that his decision, made by the Education Ministry, is coherent with the position taken by the national reconstruction government headed by Gen Luis Garcia Meza toward the Cartagena Agreement member countries, because they have assumed a clearly political stand within that organization which should be basically aimed at subregional integration, the minister stressed.

Based on the reasons given above, the education minister confirmed that the Andean meeting which was to be held in this country in February, according to the provisions of the Andres Bello Agreement, will not be held, because Bolivia has made the decision to decline being the host country for that subregional event.

BRIEFS

DEFENSE UNDER SECRETARY--Defense Minister Gen Armando Reyes Villa yesterday administered the oath of office to the new defense under secretary, Gen Hugo Echeverria. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 17 Jan 81 PY]

PRESIDENT PINOCHET CONGRATULATES PRESIDENT REAGAN

PY220155 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] Chilean President Augusto Pinochet has sent a congratulatory message to U.S. President Ronald Reagan. Pinochet's message is addressed to the White House in Washington D.C.

The following are some excerpts of the message:

Upon assuming your duties as president of the United States of America, I wish to extend to your excellency in the name of the Chilean people and their government, our most cordial congratulations and our best wishes for your personal success in your high-level duties.

President Pinochet adds: I would also like to extend to you my best wishes for your happiness and the ever-increasing prosperity of the people of the United States.

LESS FRICTION SEEN WITH NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION

PY211731 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] The acting foreign minister, Col Ernesto Videla, has stated that the Chilean Government hopes that the new U.S. administration will be crowned with success. Videla said that he hopes Reagan will be successful during his tenure because the United States is of fundamental importance for the world, especially the free world.

Asked whether our government is expecting a change in policy from the new U.S. authorities, Videla replied that our country hopes to have the best of relations with all countries in the world.

He was also asked about the friction between Chile and the Carter government regarding various matters, to which he replied that it is expected that it will be overcome with the Reagan administration.

The acting foreign minister repeated that what we want is to maintain the best of relations with all the countries in the world, because this benefits the people.

FRENCH EMBASSY OCCUPIED PEACEFULLY BY STUDENTS

PA212257 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2239 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 21 Jan (EFE)--A group of students occupied the French Embassy building at noon today, Wednesday, to call attention to their problems.

The peaceful occupation is the second to affect a diplomatic mission in the capital during the past few days. One week ago the Swedish Embassy was occupied by a group of homeless citizens.

Previously, a group of students had seized a wing of the UNESCO headquarters in order to call attention to various university problems. It is not known what attitude the French Embassy representatives will adopt in relation to the occupation.

ACTIVISTS BANISHED AFTER BUILDING SEIZURE

PY220043 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] The Chilean Government has banished three of the political activists who were removed this morning from the copper workers federation headquarters, while three other persons--all of whom are women--who were involved in the unsuccessful take over of the building will be under arrest in custody of the Interior Ministry.

A communique issued by the Social Communications Directorate reports that the men have been banished to three different towns located in the northern region of the country, the first regional area. They are: (Juan Jose Cademar Saliduinsin), who has been banished to Visviri; (Claudion Trigo Lopez Orellana), who has been banished to Putre; and (Rodolfo Xavier Martinez Parga), who has been banished to (?Capiquina). The three women have been identified as: (Nora del Carmen Benavente Pinochet), 51 years of age; (Veronica Raquel Elba Concha Robles), 18; and (Maria Soledad Onimani Pascual), 21.

All of these persons took over this morning the offices of the copper workers confederation located at 265 [name of the street indistinct]. But they were later removed by the police. Among them was also a minor who has been released.

RELATIVES OF EXILES BEGIN HUNGER STRIKE

PY211933 Paris AFP in Spanish 1508 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 21 Jan (AFP)--It was learned here today that a group of 11 persons, members of the Committee for the Return of Chileans in Exile, has begun a hunger strike protesting decree laws which ban the return to the country of their relatives.

In a public statement, the fasting persons--who installed themselves at the office of the copper workers union in downtown Santiago--indicated that the mentioned decrees are against the fundamental rights of the human being.

The people who are fasting basically request the return of all people who are in exile, especially children and old and sick people. At the same time, they stress that there are thousands of persons who have left the country for economic, political or family reasons and have found themselves not permitted to return to Chile.

According to Catholic Church reports, after the military uprising headed by Gen Augusto Pinochet--who overthrew the late socialist President Salvador Allende in 1973--thousands of Chileans left the country for political reasons.

GOVERNMENT IMPRISONS LABOR LEADERS BUSTOS, GUZMAN

PY211654 Paris AFP in Spanish 2130 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 20 Jan (AFP)--Manuel Bustos, chairman of the National Labor Coordination Board [CNS], and Alamiro Guzman, its secretary general, were imprisoned here today on charges of claiming to represent an organization lacking legal status. Efren Araya, special judge of the Santiago Court of Appeals, took the action against the labor leaders by approving a charge submitted by the Chilean military government.

The court ruling says that it is against public order and the security of the state for associations or groups of persons to assume the representation of labor sectors without having legal authorization.

The document that the Interior Ministry submitted to the court as proof of the illegal action of Bustos and Guzman is a summary of conclusions reached at a meeting held by the CNS last November. At that meeting, the detained leaders, who claim to represent 1 million workers, called for the drawing up of a nationwide document which would contain the aspirations of the Chilean workers.

INDIANS ATTACK FARMS TO PROTEST LAND SEIZURE

PA220259 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] One hundred Cauca Indians, armed with rifles, machetes and sticks, have protested the seizure of their land and attacked two farms in the north of the department. They also set fire to an administrator's house. The Indians forced the residents to flee and set an 8-day deadline for the return of the land which, according to them, was seized by six large landowners.

According to eyewitnesses the Indians threatened to take over the land by force if the owners don't comply with their demands in a civil way. The incident occurred in Siberia, Cauca, police reported. The 3d Brigade sent reinforcements to Siberia. This (?action) is part of the war strategy to recover land as announced by the Cauca Regional Indian Council early this year.

The deployment of military units was directed to avoid a massacre, Julian Narvaez, indian affairs chief at the Government Ministry, reported.

PUERTO BERRIO-MEDELLIN OIL PIPELINE SABOTAGED

PA220211 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] The kerosene supply from Puerto Berrio to Medellin returned to normal this afternoon, the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise [Ecopetrol] has reported. A terrorist attack at 0030 today broke the pipeline in three areas. (?Ecopetrol) delivered the following communique to this station:

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] Ecopetrol hereby reports that a sabotage action was staged at 0030 today when a bomb exploded near the Puerto Berrio-Medellin oil pipeline near Bello municipality, 10 km from the Medellin terminal. As a result of the explosion, the pipeline broke in three places. This caused a kerosene leak but did not cause any major damage to the nearby areas. Ecopetrol personnel in Medellin immediately closed the suction valves to stop the leak and started to repair the damage. Service was restored as of 1000 today. Property damage is estimated at approximately 1.5 million pesos. [end recording]

The attack in Antioquia today is the first such attack to occur this year.

PRESIDENT APPROVES COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH GDR

PA212029 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala has signed law No 11 of January 1981 which approves the economic, industrial and scientific-technical cooperation agreement signed by the Colombian and GDR Governments in 1975. The agreement basically consists of cooperation in the drafting of studies for investment projects; the delivery and installment of industrial plants, machinery and equipment; the exchange of [words indistinct] and results of scientific and technical research and the training of technical personnel, particularly those linked to the implementation of the projects.

PRESIDENT TO LEAVE COUNTRY FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT

PA220150 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Excerpt] President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala has asked permission from the Congress to stop exercising executive powers from 3 to 11 February. As he notified Congress yesterday, the president will travel abroad to undergo medical treatment.

During his absence he will be replaced by the Presidential Designate Victor Mosquera Chaux. The request for leave is contained in a letter President Turbay Ayala sent to the president of the Senate.

FOREIGN MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE CRITICIZES U.S. AID

PA220434 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0343 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Mexico City, 21 Jan (LATIN)--Mexico today indirectly criticized the resumption of U.S. military assistance to El Salvador upon reiterating its policy of nonintervention in the internal affairs of other countries.

"We oppose the fact that through direct material support or with collective actions, a political option whose legitimacy can only be born of the Salvadoran people could be changed artificially," an official Foreign Ministry communique states here.

The United States resumed military assistance to El Salvador last week when an offensive was launched by the leftwing guerrillas to defeat the government.

According to the U.S. ambassador to El Salvador, the decision to resume aid was made by Washington after it was confirmed that the leftwing guerrillas were receiving foreign support in their offensive.

The document states that "the manner with which the Salvadorans resolve their current problems if of the sole and exclusive concern of their own sovereign decisions.

"No country has the prerogative to interfere in support of a given political viewpoint. Nor is it of the purview of any country, near or far, to influence the developments of El Salvador so that they take a predetermined course," it adds.

BUDAPEST TV INTERVIEWS MEXICAN PARTY 'LEADER'

LD202020 Budapest Domestic Television Service in Hungarian 1800 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Budapest television reporters interview with a "leader of the Mexican Institutional Revolutionary Party, carried in "The Week" program; date and venue not specified--recorded; the unidentified "leader" speaks in Spanish with superimposed Hungarian translation]

[Except] Since 1911 Mexico has been led by the same civilian party which calls itself the Institutional Revolutionary Party. One of the leaders of this party gave an interview to "The Week."

[Question] What are your relations with the United States following the presidential elections?

[Answer] In our opinion it means no change at all. Mexico has always had very precisely defined relations with the United States.

[Question] Yes, but they change.

[Answer] Yes. For them it means change, but not for us. We maintain contacts with the U.S. Government, but I am convinced that if it pays greater attention to seeking opportunities to establish good relations with Latin American states, there will be no problems between us. We do not intervene in the domestic affairs of others and expect it to treat us and the rest of the Latin American countries in the same way. If we are agreed in the interpretation of intervention and everyone receives equal treatment, then I repeat, there will be no problems.

[Question] In the meantime, you advocate the policy of considering various directions, which means that you wish to be more detached from the United States.

[Answer] Yes. Our policy is built on independence from the United States. Our contacts, however, are cordial and we wish to seek solutions to our mutual (?problems), for instance, how to give full legal protection to Mexicans working there or how we can jointly create new opportunities in international trade. Therefore, in my opinion, there is nothing that needs be changed. We hope that the U.S. Government understands and correctly interprets our situation and that of Latin America as a whole. Every country in this continent wants to develop freely, keeping to international agreements, with regard to mutual interests.

[Question] You worked out a plan for a new world economic order. What practical steps do you want to take to transform this plan into practice?

[Answer] The Mexican Government is working to create a new world economic order based on realities. President Lopez Portillo put forth a global energy plan to the United Nations. The objective is to spend the profits from trade in energy carriers to the benefit of all the world's peoples. We know that crude oil reserves are finite. One must recognize that the energy carriers used today will be succeeded by new ones. By then we would like to see more harmony and equality realized between peoples. We took the first step when we made an agreement with Venezuela to deliver crude oil at advantageous prices to countries in the Caribbean and in Latin America, in installments over 5 years and with less profit. We did this so that changes in the price of crude oil should not be an unbearable burden to the economic and (?financial) interests of these countries. We hope this will be an example of the kind of steps that can be taken in creating the new world economic order.

[Reporter] The wealth of our age--oil--provides a great opportunity for Mexico. By Arabian standards the production of 2.5 million barrels is modest, but it provides a tidy income. The government does not intend to increase production to any extent for the time being; it intends to economize with oil stocks and to carefully consider what income from oil should be spent on. Thus the oil well in Mexico is the symbol of the present and the future.

The pyramid is the symbol of the past. According to legend, the people of Mexico learned a great deal from the feathered serpent, among other things the art of government and the science of growing maize, for which the rain god provides the rain. However, the unpredictable god gives too little rain at times and, although in some of Mexico's agricultural estates there is very modern machinery at the service of production, nonetheless, a situation arose in which the country had to import 12 million tons of grain in 1980, 95 percent of which was delivered by the United States. It is expected that this year a larger quantity will be needed. It follows from this that Mexico depends on the United States in this respect. This is one of the motivating forces behind the policy of looking in several directions.

LA PRENSA: 'TRAITORS' PLEASED AT REAGAN PRESIDENCY

PA220114 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 19 Jan 81 p 8-a

[Commentary by Thelma King: "Reagan to the Presidency...and Now What?"]

[Text] Former California Government Ronald Reagan will take office tomorrow as President of the United States.

Of course, all Latin Americans who betray their fatherlands are pleased, since the statements made by the old Hollywood cowboy and some of his closest collaborators leave no room for doubt about the bloodbath with which they expect to cleanse the hemisphere of atheistic communism and of the raw materials that the U.S. magnates need to manufacture the expensive things they sell to the "underdevelopeds." Mrs Jeane Kilpatrick, a liberal Democrat who has now gotten into the Republican carriage, has unabashedly admitted that she prefers an Anastasio Somoza-style ruler to any other that might be influenced by Fidel Castro. In other words, she prefers the familiar and manageable evil to a possible good located beyond her own prejudices. As for new secretary of state, military officer Alexander Haig, he is preparing to wage the definitive battle so that his country will never again lack the oil and all the minerals essential to the industrial leaders, especially the weapons manufacturers, so they can grow even wealthier, at the cost of the pain, the misery and the starvation of those who were not born white or, worse yet, were not born in Europe or the United States.

This is no longer the intellectual barbarism unleashed by troglodyte McCarthy, but a redeeming campaign aimed at showing those who dare to be nationalists and patriots without being U.S. citizens that barbarians must be ruled by "strong men" at the service of U.S. interests.

What Teddy Roosevelt wouldn't have done with a secretary of state like Alexander Haig! But can Ronald Reagan do it? He will probably try to because he will find other Napoleons like the one serving the military in El Salvador, who will ask him for aid to exterminate the "ultraleft." Or perhaps he will try it simply because he regards himself as a champion of manifest destiny. But it will not amount to anything more than that: an attempt, because heroic Vietnam showed those who have been humiliated the path to independence and the way to tread this path. Our brothers in Nicaragua and El Salvador have proven that Bolivar, Sandino and Morazan still live in their grandchildren and that, in the search for freedom, they will know how to tread paths such as those of the Segovias.

Mr Reagan and the local traitors of their fatherland are wrong if they think they can repeat with impunity episodes such as that of Guatemala in 1954 and the Dominican Republic in 1965.

All Latin American peoples are anxious to live in peace; but with the justice inherent in an equitable distribution of the wealth that a few now monopolize. To reduce the Salvadoran problem to the level of a struggle between the extreme left and the extreme right reveals a cynicism and a hypocrisy that only the Gringos and their employees in their backyard can display.

The people were not the ones who began the bloodshed in that sister nation. It was the conceited oligarchy, supported by the military, with the silent church as its accomplice, which elicited the protest of the masses after scores of years of oppression, intransigence and voracity.

All the gamut of infamies and injustices that have been staged in Bolivar's America has been encouraged and sponsored by the United States. Now the gentlemen from the north tell us that they will not allow communism to become enthroned in these lands.

Communism in Latin America is the responsibility--if indeed one must determine who is responsible regarding each person's ideology--of those who with their crimes and injustices forced many to seek happiness by means of a doctrine that offered it to them.

But it is also worth pointing out that, as Che Guevara once said, the gringos are not concerned over whether or not a regime is communist. What interests them is that the regime will allow them to plunder the country's natural wealth, which, in simpler terms, means that the only crime that Americans do not forgive in a man is his loving his fatherland, his being a nationalist.

PAPER AWAITS DIRECTION OF REAGAN'S FUTURE POLICIES

PA211257 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 19 Jan 81 p 6-a

[Article by Adolfo Benedetti: "At the Gateway to the Unknown"]

[Text] Just a few hours before Mr Reagan takes office as president of the United States, something very similar to a "state of alert" is taking root throughout the world.

The world doesn't know whether the inauguration ceremony of the man who will occupy the same position as Lincoln and Washington will mark the beginning of an era of positive substantial changes or, on the contrary, the beginning of a time of uneasiness, of a return to old superpower practices which today's world doesn't accept or tolerate.

Of course, by this time Reagan himself knows that his outright blunders concerning certain situations in the world won't do. His advisers must have told him so. Furthermore, he is not the misinformed man that his opponents have portrayed before.

Reagan has savvy in trade union matters. He has proven that he is an organizer, a go-getter, and that he has the great virtue of persistence which can often take the place of intelligence and training. These qualities must have made him realize that much of what he thought as a candidate will be impossible for him to put into practice as a ruler.

In any event, a whole network of conjecture, fears and hopes has surrounded his name and future activities. This makes us think that only the future, with its changing circumstances, will unravel the unknown factor that is puzzling the world today, namely, Ronald Reagan.

EL SALVADOR

AVALOS ON GOVERNMENT'S ACHIEVEMENTS, TERRORISM

PA212345 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1817 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] Much has been said about the number of persons being killed and of violence in our country, but nothing is said about positive achievements made by the revolutionary government junta in the past year, Jose Ramon Avalos Navarrete, member of the junta, said when referring to the changes taking place in El Salvador which definitely benefit the people and are being concealed from the world.

Referring to the so-called general strikes called by the extremists, Avalos Navarrete said that Salvadoran workers have never responded to the calls made by the extremists and instead have continued working. The people have been working, thus showing by their attitude they are against violence, Avalos Navarrete pointed out.

He also talked about the destruction caused by terrorism in our country. Regarding this subject he said that terrorism means all those actions carried out by unstable individuals against the people. He was asked the purpose of these actions. Avalos Navarrete explained that these actions are aimed at intimidating the people, at creating a state of uncertainty among the population and at destroying the sources of jobs in order to frighten the people. Terrorists try to create confusion and panic among the citizens, Avalos Navarrete said. Finally, he said that the government and the armed forces are fighting against this.

MILITARY NOTES POSSIBILITY OF SECOND OFFENSIVE

PA220347 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0151 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--According to statements by a military spokesman to ACAN-EFE, "a truck transporting Soviet weapons was intercepted on the Honduran border by Honduran forces, but we believe that two others have entered Salvadoran territory."

"The report which we have," the official spokesman said, "is that there were three trucks, of which only one was detected in time by the Honduran authorities. The trucks were transporting Soviet weapons for the guerrillas."

According to the same spokesman, Salvadoran Armed Forces intelligence services have reports that hint at "a new general offensive on the part of the guerrillas, which might occur within the next few hours."

The principal actions of this second "general offensive," the official indicated, "would be staged in the capital against electrical installations and transportation routes, with the object of paralyzing work, business, industrial and other activities of the country."

Perhaps this second general offensive by the guerrillas in El Salvador may have included the confrontations which have taken place during the past few hours in Santa Clara (east), Las Vueltas (north), Los Ranchos (north), San Roque (central) and Cinquera (northeast).

Although there are no specific reports from any of these towns, it is known that in Las Vueltas, in the northern Department of Chalatenango, three soldiers were killed and seven others had to be evacuated in helicopters for treatment of their wounds.

NICARAGUANS TO NEED ENTRY VISAS; CLASHES REPORTED

PA211917 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1820 GMT 21 Jan 81

[By Adrian Roberto Aldana]

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Jan (LATIN)--The Salvadoran Government today established strict control over the entrance of Nicaraguans into El Salvador. Meanwhile, fierce battles between the army and the leftist guerrillas who want to overthrow the government continue. At least 19 people have been killed in the battles during the past few hours.

A military report indicated that a heavy clash occurred this morning in San Ramon, north of San Salvador, where the guerrillas are resisting army units. The number of casualties has not been disclosed.

Other clashes occurred today in Santa Clara and San Sebastian, San Vicente Department, 65 km to the east, where guerrilla columns are attacking the garrisons of the security forces. The number of victims so far is unknown.

Last night the armed forces confronted insurgents in the city of Santa Ana, 180 km to the west, killing at least 12 guerrillas. A military spokesman said that an unspecified number of soldiers were wounded in the clash.

Early today the army occupied a guerrilla camp near San Vicente, capital of San Vicente Department, confiscating a large amount of weapons, food and communications equipment.

In a suburb of Santa Ana, the country's second most important city, there was a fierce battle last night when a clandestine arms factory was found by the government forces. Three guerrillas who were defending the factory were killed.

The military spokesman said that two soldiers were killed when they were ambushed by insurgents between Las Vueltas and San Antonio, Chalatenango Department, almost on the border with Honduras.

Armed groups yesterday seized the towns of Sociedad and El Rosario, Morazan Department, where they held rallies before the government forces forced them to withdraw suffering and casualties. Morazan Department has been one of the worst hit during the general offensive launched by the guerrillas on 10 January in their attempt to overthrow the civilian-military government. It is estimated that 900 civilians and 160 soldiers have died in the general offensive.

A military report indicated that two people died last night for disobeying the curfew imposed by the martial law in Soyapango, on the western outskirts of San Salvador.

Meanwhile, the government established that beginning today the Nicaraguans who want to enter the country must have a consular visa. This is apparently an attempt to prevent the entrance of volunteers who might want to join the Salvadoran guerrillas. According to regional agreements, up to now the Nicaraguans could enter El Salvador just with their identification card. However, it was added that the control does not affect diplomats or Nicaraguans with official passports.

Official Bulletin

PA212238 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1311 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] An official bulletin on the activities carried out by the Salvadoran Armed Forces throughout the country during the past 24 hours:

On 20 January 1981, the Armed Forces of El Salvador reports to the Salvadoran people and to the world that the situation in the villages where military operations have taken place during the past 24 hours is as follows:

The armed forces located and destroyed terrorist camps in San Antonio Los Ranchos, which has a population of 5,000 and is located 70 km from the capital, and in Las Vueltas with 12,000 inhabitants and located 85 km from San Salvador and 16 km from Chalatenango. Both towns are in Chalatenango Department. During the operation the armed forces lost two men in Las Vueltas. The rebel casualties could not be determined. Automatic and semi-automatic rifles and pistols of various calibers were left behind by the rebels.

In Suchitoto a store was set on fire during the clashes with the rebels, who were repelled by our army, which has total control of the town.

The army repelled the rebels who were harrassing the population of Villa del Rosario, which has 4,000 inhabitants and is 200 km northeast of San Salvador, and La Villa de Sociedad, with 10,500 inhabitants and located 175 km from San Salvador. Both towns are in Morazan Department and are controlled by the army.

The bulletins says that the armed forces located a building in Salchuapa, Santa Ana Department, which the rebels used as an arsenal and to make bombs.

The harressment carried out by the rebels is interpreted as a last effort in the so-called final offensive launched by the rebels groups who are now roaming different parts of the country, because of their inability to control a single position, and who are causing problems for those who wish to work in peace.

The armed forces will continue the cleanup operation and its searches for rebels hide-outs in order to restore order, tranquillity and the right to work, to which the citizens are entitled.

The armed forces reiterates that the amnesty offer is still good and those rebels who have not surrendered for fear that their superiors would execute them can approach any military post, where they and their families will be given protection and guarantees so that they can be incorporated into the revolutionary process. The amnesty is in effect in order to prevent further bloodshed.

A late report says that the army has located a terrorist hideout in La Union Department. These could be the remnants of the group which invaded our territory through El Cuco Beach in El Esteron, San Miguel Department. The report says they resisted capture. No casualties have been reported, but two soldiers were wounded during the operation. More Chinese and Soviet arms were seized by the army. One will recall that during the military operation carried out by the armed forces against the 100 terrorists who landed in our territory, 52 were killed and the rest are supposedly hiding in that area.

Arms Cache in Coatepeque

PA200247 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1810 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] The armed forces uncovered an arms cache last Saturday in Coatepeque, Santa Ana Department. The arms chache consisted of rifles, submachineguns, explosives, medical equipment and other war materials which were well hidden in a building which had been bought with the people's money for 130,000 colones. Most of the arms found here were made in the USSR and China. These were not like the arms flown from the south which neither Cuba, Nicaragua nor any other country claimed to know anything about. Everything seems to indicate that the planes with the arms just came from somewhere in the atmosphere or stratosphere.

The building in which the arms cache was found was also used as a bomb factory which employed foreign experts on explosives. Large sums of money were spent on renovating this factory, money that perhaps came from the same source that is paying the luxuries of the guerrilla leaders who are issuing orders from Mexico to the poor people here who are taking all the risk.

The uncovering of the arms cache in Coatepeque represents a serious blow to the guerrillas of the western and central sectors who used to get their arms here.

FMLN PRESENTS GUARDSMAN AS PRISONER OF WAR

PA220334 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0146 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--In a clandestine press conference today, the Salvadoran guerrillas presented a national guardsman whom they had taken prisoner in Tecoluca, 60 km east of San Salvador.

The presentation of Manuel Escalante, 20, took place somewhere in San Vicente Department. The guerrillas claimed to belong to the Anastasio Aquino paracentral front of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN).

According to the national guardsman, he was wounded in a skirmish in Tecoluca, where he was captured. He also told newsmen that he had joined the national guard because he was jobless and had a mother and several smaller brothers to support. He is the first prisoner of war to be presented by the guerrillas.

FMLN REPORTS RESIGNATION OF CONSUL IN MONTREAL

PA171825 (Clandestine) Radio Liberation in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Another diplomat of the fascist junta has resigned. On the afternoon of 16 January, a few hours after the resignation of the Salvadoran ambassador in Nicaragua, the diplomat who held the post of honorary consul in Montreal, Canada resigned. Mr Adolfo (Chutis) said he could not continue at the side of a murderous junta inspired by interests alien to those of the Salvadoran people. This is further proof of the accelerated deterioration of the genocidal junta.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS VOICE SUPPORT FOR LEFT

PA161841 (Clandestine) Radio Liberation in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Costa Rica's People's Revolutionary Movement [MRP] supports the heroic struggle of the Salvadoran people. The Costa Rican MRP Central Committee issued a resolution 11 January in which it appeals for increased militant support for the heroic people of El Salvador and their indestructible vanguard, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front.

Solidarity with the Salvadoran archbishopric's radio station: Various international institutions and organizations have expressed in solidarity with YSAX, the radio station of the Salvadoran Archbishopric, which at this time cannot go back on the air because the genocidal junta, the enemy of the most basic freedoms, refuses to grant it permission to operate. YSAX was playing an important role in education and in courageous denunciation of the junta's atrocities.

This made it the victim of repeated dynamite attacks. The homilies of Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero, the martyr bishop, were heard on the station by thousands of Salvadorans across the nation. Now the terrorist bands of the junta have threatened the technicians who are helping with the reinstallation of YSAX, all of which demonstrates their caveman attitude against all democratic manifestations, of free expression and broadcast of thought.

EL INDEPENDIENTE DIRECTOR SEEKS ASYLUM AT EMBASSY

PA191243 Paris AFP in Spanish 0340 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] San Salvador, 18 Jan (AFP)--It has been reported here that Jorge Pinto, di ector of the daily EL INDEPENDIENTE, sought asylum today in the Mexican Embassy here. Pinto's newspaper was raided yesterday afternoon by the Salvadoran authorities.

There were rumors today that as a result of the raid on the independent local news agency, API, on Wednesday, its director, Vida Cuadra Hernandez, and six other journalists were arrested. According to the rumors, one of the journalists under arrest is Francisco Ramirez Avelar, editor of the news agency and of the newspaper EL INDEPENDIENTE.

When asked by AFP about Pinto's asylum, one of the secretaries of the Mexican Embassy said he had not been authorized to give out information on this and asked newsmen to contact the Foreign Ministry in Mexico. However, the Mexican spokesman would not deny the report.

The rest of the personnel of EL INDEPENDIENTE, with the exception of John Kavanagh--a 23-year-old U.S. citizen who works in the paper's printshop two blocks from the newspaper's offices--is free.

Yesterday afternoon there were raids and searches for arms in the Catholic University and in the residence of the Jesuits, who administer the university, according to what the archbishop of San Salvador said this morning in his homily.

Msgr Arturo Rivera y Damas said that "the soldiers roughly looked in every corner in their search for arms that they could not find because there are no arms there." Rivera also said that on Sunday, 11 January, at 1900 local time, the refuge, the church and the convent of Soyapango were militarily occupied and later turned into headquarters for the finance police.

On Tuesday, 13 January, the parish of Plan del Pito was occupied by the military, the archbishop charged. The archbishop said that on that same day the priests' training house in Santa Tecla was occupied and searched and that the army arrested three students who were later found in a jail.

The archbishop finally denounced the military occupation of the installations for refugees in the town of San Roque.

Regarding the report on the death of approximately 100 guerrillas late yesterday and at dawn today, in Tierra Blanca, approximately 8 km from the city of Santa Ana, in the mountains, it has been established that the fighting took place in a camp of irregular forces which was surrounded and attacked by surprise by the army. Foreign journalists who arrived at the site were told by soldiers that there were there 40 bodies, including those of several women, which were being cremated. It is believed that the camp was a guerrilla center for logistic support and medical services.

Asylum Granted

PA201451 Paris AFP in Spanish 0026 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] Mexico City, 19 Jan (AFP)--The Mexican Foreign Ministry announced today that the Mexican Embassy in El Salvador has granted political asylum to four individuals. One of them is Jorge Pinto, director of the newspaper EL INDEPENDIENTE.

The other refugees are Pinto's wife, Teresa Zuniga de Pinto, their son Jorge Pinto Zuniga, and INDEPENDENT PRESS AGENCY photographer Adolfo Amaya Villalobos.

LA PRENSA GRAFICA EXPECTS CHANGE WITH REAGAN

PA212321 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 21 Jan 81 p 7

[Editorial: "Reagan's Relations With Latin America"]

[Text] In the concise speech that Ronald Reagan delivered at the inauguration ceremony there were a variety of concepts which, it has been implied, will be implemented in the days to come.

Regarding relations of the new U.S. Government with Latin American countries, the intention to improve these relations, a disposition toward aid, respect for self-determination, extending this respect to the defense of freedom in case it is threatened anywhere in Latin America have been expressed.

Reagan did not refer to any Latin American country in particular, aware of the fact that when talking of Latin America he was referring to a territorial extension of 20 million square km which has 350 million inhabitants.

The views outlined by Reagan in his inauguration speech present extensive food for thought, even if they were brief. In the case of Latin America it could be starting point for a change of leadership and of attitude in inter-American relations.

GUATEMALA

LUCAS, FOREIGN MINISTER GREET NEW U.S. OFFICIALS

PA212221 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] Guatemalan President Romeo Lucas told the new U.S. President, Ronald Reagan, today that he is convinced their two governments will maintain relations which are solidly based on friendship, understanding, respect and cooperation between friendly nations.

The Guatemalan chief of state added that, knowing his personal attributes and philosophy, based on the spirit of justice, honesty and human sensibility as well as his determination to utilize all this in the service of his country and in excellent relations with the nations of the world, we are certain the United States will be able to fulfill its role in maintaining world peace.

President Lucas expressed his confidence to the new vice president, George Bush, that the relations between the governments of Guatemala and the United States will increase on a solid foundation of friendship, understanding, respect and cooperation.

Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez sent Vice President Bush a message in which he assured Bush that he will always find in him a friend willing to cooperate and to discuss all those issues that may be of interest to Guatemala and the United States.

The foreign minister also sent a message to Secretary of State Alexander Haig, in which he noted that in Secretary Haig President Ronald Reagan will have one of the most outstanding figures of that nation to help him guide the destiny of that great nation for the next 4 years.

MINISTRY LOOKS FORWARD TO REAGAN-HAIG POLICY

PA212037 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Relations issued a statement saying that the Guatemalan Government is sure that the Reagan administration will start an era of mutual understanding based on respect and the principles of international law.

Basically, these include the principles of nonintervention in the internal affairs of other states, juridical equality among the states and the elimination of trade barriers.

The Foreign Ministry statement added that the statements of President Ronald Reagan, as well as those of Secretary of State Haig, concerning Central America are encouraging and indicate their determination to respect the principle of nonintervention and to help those friendly governments to keep communist regimes out of the area.

MLN DEPUTY HAILS CHANGE OF U.S. GOVERNMENT

PA220255 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] Deputy Lionel Sisniega Otero, official spokesman of the National Liberation Movement [MLN], has said that the change of government which took place yesterday in the United States will be of great importance for the future of not only Latin America, but of the entire world.

We are happy with the change that has taken place in U.S. politics, with the leadership of the great northern country which has been assumed by the Republican Party through its candidate Ronald Reagan, who possesses more single-mindedness and better vision for the problems of U.S. foreign relations, Sisniega said.

We believe, Sisniega said, that the team formed by Ronald Reagan is competent and conscientious and that it will resolve the problems which were created by Carter through a policy that was erratic and often misguided.

We feel, Sisniega said, that the government headed by Ronald Reagan, which took office yesterday, will calm the troubled waters of international politics and return the great northern nation to its former status.

However, Sisniega said that the MLN does not expect the changes to be immediate and miraculous, because a harsh struggle will be needed, but that with time the United States will again become the leader of the Western world and it will be able to guarantee a honorable peace and allow all democratic peoples to live in peace and tranquillity.

THREE INJURED IN POLICE-TERRORISTS CLASH IN ZONE 7

PA220053 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] The police and presumed guerrillas clashed tonight in Zone 7. One policeman and two subversives were injured.

According to unofficial reports, the incident began when armed men were caught planting subversive propaganda bombs at 12th Avenue and 9th Street in Zone 7. On being discovered, the presumed guerrillas attempted to flee in a blue automobile, but the policemen pursued them in a patrol car and there was a heavy exchange of fire in the streets of Zone 7.

The security forces captured three of the terrorists and confiscated homemade bombs that were in their possession.

A few minutes ago, it was announced that the policeman, who was injured in the intensive shootout in Zone 7 when terrorist activities were thwarted, was identified as Jorge Rodriguez Alvarez. He was taken by fire truck to the Social Security Hospital traumatology clinic where he was admitted. No prognosis on his condition has been given.

EGP CLAIMS CREDIT FOR KILLING POLICEMEN, MAYOR

PA210450 Paris AFP in Spanish 0126 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] Guatemala City, 20 Jan (AFP)--The leftwing clandestine People's Guerrilla Army (EGP) have announced that "with the aim of preventing Guatemalan troops from assisting the Salvadoran military junta" in the past few days it has intensified its actions against the government security forces.

In a press bulletin sent to the AFP office in Guatemala, the guerrilla group claimed credit for the attack against a patrol yesterday in this capital in which four policemen were killed.

The EGP also released here today a "war bulletin" in which it reports several actions which have allegedly been carried out in the interior of the country.

Furthermore, in the same document they blame those whom they accuse of "participating in the repression against the people" for killing several persons.

The report by the guerrilla group also recounts the takeover of townships, all small, since 30 December in which political-military rallies were reportedly held.

Finally, in an attachment, the EGP appeals to the people of Guatemala to "combatively join the tasks of solidarity with the struggle being waged in El Salvador."

Communique on Mayor

PA161825 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] In pamphlets it distributed last night in Santa Lucia Cotzumalguapa, the clandestine People's Guerrilla Army [EGP] claimed responsibility for the death of local Mayor Miguel Angel Ortega Melchor, a prominent member of the National Liberation Movement [MLN].

In the communique, the EGP said he was killed due to his repression of many sectors, which asked for his resignation several times, and because he was a member of a rightist organization operating on the southern coast.

HONDURAS

SALVADORAN OFFICIAL ARRIVES, DISCUSSES CONFLICT

PA220224 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1631 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 21 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--In the opinion of Salvadoran Deputy Foreign Minister Alejandro Gomez Vides, "there may be an internationalization of the Salvadoran conflict." Gomez Vides hinted at this today, shortly before meeting with Honduran Government officials to explain his country's violent political situation.

"Our country is experiencing a difficult situation that should worry the democratic governments of Central America and move them to join efforts in order to fight the foreign invasion on the isthmus," Gomez Vides said. He arrived in Honduras yesterday.

"As visible evidence of Cuba's intervention in El Salvador," Deputy Foreign Minister Gomez Vides affirmed, "we have the weapons seized from the guerrillas, which are better than those used by the Salvadoran Army."

He added that his government has proof that foreigners armed with all kinds of weapons, and using barges, have invaded his country and that this intervention threatens all of Central America.

"Black mercenaries have died in El Salvador," he said. "Their bodies and the weapons which were seized will be exhibited so the entire world will be aware that foreigners are invading El Salvador." El Salvador is the only Central American country that has no blacks among its native inhabitants.

The Salvadoran deputy foreign minister explained that the foreign invasion has been controlled and that this invasion has "already" been denounced at the OAS.

He added that the final and definitive offensive announced by the guerrillas has been completely defeated, even though it cannot be affirmed that the army has won "because some hurdles must still be overcome."

He pointed out that the guerrillas are now calling "general" their much-touted final and definitive offensive, which the army quelled throughout the country.

He went on to say that elections will be held next year in El Salvador and that the Honduran model, which has been regarded as "functional," has been copied, with a constituent assembly that will later call for primary elections for president, congressmen and municipal authorities.

He warned that during the next few eeks, "Honduras will become the object of an international campaign to discredit it, in which it will be accused of helping the Salvadoran junta by providing troops and ammunition. That is the general plan of the subversive groups that operate in Central America."

Army Intervention Denied

PA211908 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] Salvadoran Deputy Foreign Minister Alejandro Gomez Vides, approached on the reported intervention by the Honduran Army in Salvadoran internal affairs, most emphatically delcared that the Honduran Army has displayed a highly professional attitude and has not intervened in the Salvadoran conflict.

The Honduran Army, he added, is ready to defend the sovereignty and integrity of the Honduran territory. However, its troops have at no time intervened in the conflict affecting El Salvador.

Therefore, he said, he wished to assure the Honduran people that the stories circulated by some sectors in their efforts to involve the Honduran Army are false, the Honduran Army has taken no part in the Salvadoran crisis.

ARMY CONFISCATES ARMS INTENDED FOR EL SALVADOR

PA212314 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1548 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 21 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--It was learned here today that the Honduran Army confiscated an arms cargo yesterday at Comayagua Department which was allegedly on its way to the Salvadoran guerrillas.

The arms were found in the cellar of a house owned by a person surnamed Guillen on the outskirts of the city of Comayagua. This Guillen individual apparently also owns a tannery.

A 4-wheel drive vehicle and the weapons and ammunition found in the house were confiscated.

The police have not issued an official report yet and the army public relations office says a report on this matter will be issued in due time but that "there is some truth to this."

This is the second batch of weapons to be found and confiscated in Comayagua. The first one was found in a truck occupied by three persons. Two of them were wounded when they tried to escape.

According to Salvadoran Deputy Foreign Minister Alejandro Gomez Vides, who arrived in Honduras yesterday and met with the Honduran Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Cesar Elvir Sierra, "the arms found in the truck came from Nicaragua and are presumably of Soviet manufacture."

Honduran newsmen unanimously complained today that the Foreign Ministry first reports events to visiting foreign officials and is reluctant to confirm reports to newsmen in the country. All official sources questioned on the weapons which were found promise provide more information but then to refuse to do so although they do not deny the newspaper reports.

OFFICIAL EXPLAINS 1981-82 ECONOMIC PROGRAM

PA211448 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Report by the Superior Council for National Economic Planning; read by Efrain Reconco Murillo, executive secretary of the National Economic Planning Council--recorded]

[Excerpts] Hondurans, a main feature of the Jose Cecilio del Valle program for immediate action is that it can be implemented by the current government during 1981 and part of 1982. Through genuine national integration the government can give the program special significance. This is a government program which introduces for the first time in the nation's economic planning, a number of policies aimed at solving the problems the people are confronted with every day. It is a program which contains measures to prevent an increase in the prices of basic goods. It is a program which for the first time in Honduras introduces anti-inflationary measures in order to control inflation which first appeared in our country in 1972. This programs will implement specific measures to solve unemployment in rural and urban areas. It also introduces special measures to efficiently attack the problems of malnutrition which exist among the population of lower income. It also stresses the need to have a more flexible loan policy as a way to serve the private sector so that it can substantially increase the levels of production. The program also presents for the first time a specific operational program on a regional scale with definite measures to help Amapala, the border zone with El Salvador, Santa Barbara and Oro Department, and the Ahuan and La Mosquitia Zones. All this is within a context which is far from being ambitious. On the contrary, it is a program which takes the financial aspects into consideration and for this reason we consider it a feasible and realistic program which can be implemented immediately.

The government's program for immediate action can be a very useful instrument for seeking a national consensus. The 1981-82 program for immediate action is a development instrument closely related to the country's economic and political reality. This is particularly true with regard to the availability of financial resources from private or state sectors, with regard to international agreements and with regard to the fight against inflation which has severely affected the people.

Factors which were beyond our control seriously limited our development economically and politically in 1980. We are still up against serious problems affecting our economic growth. However, we are convinced that just as in the past, we will be able to face our problems and to maintain our trend of development in an orderly and stable manner. We must also realize that the beginning of this decade has been much more complex than in the past decade. This means that now more than ever we have to renew our support to all national sectors in order to preserve the conditions favorable for the development of the Honduran community.

For this reason, we must resort to every means available to face the current situation with a great national unity in which we all can contribute with our quota of efforts and sacrifices that will permit us to continue building the Honduras of today and of tomorrow.

Otherwise, we will be endangering the economic and social gains we made in the past and what is even worse, our own social organization. We must look forward to the future because we are absolutely convinced--and historically this has been the case--that private enterprise, workers and peasants have a clear and definite feeling of social responsibility which, represented by a great national unity, will allow us to successfully face future challenges.

The studies carried out by the Economic Planning Council Technical Secretariat regarding the activities of 1980 and also the economic and social outlook for 1981-82, entitles us to make the following observations:

A. The prospects for 1981-82 point to the reactivation of the economy as a result of a deliberate policy of support and strengthening of production and the economic activity in general, with special emphasis on the programs directed at strengthening the country's external position and more adequately satisfying the needs of the population, mainly lower income sectors.

B. The instruments which will permit the achievement of the desired results are closely linked to the acceleration of the agrarian reform and the production of crops and articles of basic consumption. The various services that the state provides to promote production should be oriented toward those programs.

C. The achievement of the production goals for domestic consumption and export along with the implementation of specific measures to halt the import of luxury goods and the introduction of greater rationality in the use of certain goods which are costly to the Honduran economy will prevent any new deterioration in the country's international reserves which would seriously compromise monetary and financial stability. On the basis of the aforementioned considerations and on the basis of a flow of foreign capital compatible with the expenditures which stem from the implementation of the public sector projects, a reasonable level of international reserves is expected to be recovered.

D. The adaptation of the public sector to this panorama of renewed dynamism is based, on the one hand, on the introduction of a policy of austerity and reallocation of expenditures tending to favor the activities in support of production and, on the other hand, on the strengthening of the system of obtaining revenue in line with the important role played at the public sector.

All of the actions of the government program will tend to produce a gradual improvement in the population's employment and income levels with the consistent increase in the real consumption of the Honduran family. In this regard, it is important to point out not only the attention to be given to the agrarian reform but to the promotion of the small and medium-sized industry which produces popular consumer goods and generates jobs as well as the [word indistinct] of technology in the programs of construction of basic rural infrastructures.

E. All these efforts are complemented by the actions to maintain the real income of families through a price policy which guarantees a constant supply of staple products at reasonable prices and quality. To this end, decree No 91 will be readjusted so that besides the actions undertaken in the marketing area, this legal instrument will be truly useful in fighting price gouging. In the marketing area, emphasis is placed on indirect regulation through the strengthening of the action of the IMA and the BANASUPRO [not further identified] so that a marketing policy which coordinates the actions of the government and basic organizations, essentially agricultural cooperatives, will be implemented.

F. The outlook points to the recovery of economic activity but the limitations in the area of resources prevent the desired expansion of the programs to noticeably increase the coverage of social services for the population.

In view of these restrictions, the activity of the state will be directed at preventing the worsening of the deficits and at supporting a number of programs which have an effect on the well-being of the Honduran family.

It will be possible to implement the government program on the basis of the aforementioned considerations and to the extent that a national consensus is achieved. In this sense, it is not adventurous to point out that the future is in our hands. It is essential that all active sectors cooperate in this great task. As has been repeatedly said by the news media, it is essential that national confidence be maintained. The country will be able to face its main problems to the extent that this national confidence is maintained and consolidated. To this end, the Honduran people must be mobilized on the basis of national unity. The program for immediate action will contribute from the economic viewpoint to this end.

Regarding the government program that we have mentioned so many times, I reiterated that it is feasible and essential that we achieve the active participation of all sectors as a clear demonstration of what we can do in defense of the peace and tranquillity of the Honduran people on the basis of a national and coherent economic policy that establishes the norms for the action of the government and guides and channels the development of private enterprise.

Honduran people, 1981 will definitely mark a milestone in the country's development since three fundamental achievements will be obtained this year: 1. The country will have a new constitution thanks to the hard and unceasing work of the National Constituent Assembly. 2. We will experience the consolidation of the democratic opening guaranteed by the armed forces. 3. In the economic sphere, we will lay the groundwork for economic and social development for the rest of the decade on the basis of the deep and serious work which the technical secretariat of the Superior Council for Economic Planning will undertake. The secretariat will do this work in joint consultation with the rest of the institutions of the government sector and with the active participation of representatives of all the active and organized labor and productive sectors which will approve the strategic options for economic and social development in the next decade.

I sincerely thank you for your patience in listening to me and I thank the press secretariat of the Presidency of the republic which has permitted me to briefly explain to you not only the Jose Cecilio del Valle 1981-82 program for immediate action which constitutes the government program but also other concepts which in my view are of broad concern to all the Honduran people. Thank you very much.

HAVANA AIRS INTERVIEW WITH HONDURAN GUERRILLA

PA211312 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Interview conducted by a "Latin American newsman, somewhere in Honduras," date not given--recorded passages enclosed in quotation marks]

[Text] We now offer you an interview with Francisco, an underground fighter who is a member of a Honduran political-military organization, who in this phase of the struggle has chosen not to identify himself publicly.

This interview was received by Radio Havana, Cuba, from friendly hands. In the first part of the interview, Francisco refers to his organization:

"We are a political-military organization which has been preparing for some time in our country to wage the revolutionary struggle. We have chosen armed revolutionary struggle as the main form of struggle because we have certain strategic objectives, which are to achieve power, national liberation and the establishment of a popular revolutionary government that will establish the bases of a socialist society.

"We feel that the Honduran revolution will have to be proletarian and popular in nature. Moreover, we conceive the content of this process of revolutionary struggle as being essentially anti-imperialist and anticapitalist.

"We also feel that in Honduras the leading moving force of the revolutionary process is the working class. The main class in our country is the peasant class because it constitutes the majority. The peasant class, in alliance with the working class, will become the axis of the great popular revolutionary alliance in this country."

At another point in the interview, Francisco discussed some of the actions staged recently by his organization:

Within our fighting actions, apart from the fact that we have considered this period to be one of gathering of forces and getting organized, some revolutionary actions have been carried out. Among them we can mention the machinegunning of the U.S. Embassy and the placement of bombs at the Chilean [as heard] Embassy in Tegucigalpa last year in an act of revolutionary solidarity with our revolutionary companeros of El Salvador as a result of the signing of the peace treaty on 30 October of last year.

"For the information of the international public, we will report on other actions we have carried out at the appropriate time."

Regarding Honduran intervention in the revolutionary process underway in El Salvador, the Honduran figher said:

"We vigorously denounce the participation of the Honduran Army in actions against the Salvadoran revolutionary movement. This has also been denounced by important national and international organizations. This intervention is being carried out in compliance with plans of U.S. imperialists, especially the Yankee Pentagon, in order to check the advance of the Salvadoran revolutionary movement, which is at present dealing crushing blows to the military-Christian Democratic tyranny.

"In this situation, we Honduran revolutionaries who feel as if the struggle of the Salvadoran revolutionaries were our own, feel that it is our Central American duty to do everything within our power to increase our own struggle, to harass the enemy to the utmost and thus prevent the consummation of the final intervention by the Honduran counterinsurgency forces in El Salvador. This will be our contribution to the harsh, but triumphant struggle presently being waged by the Salvadoran revolutionaries in a very advanced phase of their effort, led by their political-military vanguard, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front."

OVER 25,000 SALVADORAN REFUGEES IN COUNTRY

PA161905 Tegucigalpa La Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1145 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Over 25,000 Salvadoran refugees have arrived in Honduras, while a similar number have entered through concealed areas and have reached Omoa without personal documents. Honduran reporter Jose de Flores approached the director of immigration, Col Leonel Gutierrez Minera, to obtain information on this matter.

Colonel Gutierrez Minera said there are some 22,000 Salvadorans in La Virtud, Lempira Department, and added that the Honduran Government is helping these people for humanitarian motives, for it is not capable of providing for all their needs.

Asked if there was any information on those Salvadorans who have entered the country since the renewal of relations between the two countries, Colonel Gutierrez said some are entering legally and others are entering through concealed areas without passing through the customs posts. The government has already captured some of these elements who really have no reason to do this for the borders are open to them.

NICARAGUA

OIL SUPPLY AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH VENEZUELA

PA161510 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Nicaragua and Venezuela last night signed an agreement that guarantees Venezuelan supply of petroleum to Nicaragua for a 5-year period and the financing of 30 percent of the petroleum imports by the Venezuelan Investment Fund [FIV]. The supply agreement was signed in the conference room of the government house in the presence of the National Reconstruction Government junta and Planning Minister Henry Ruiz.

The agreement was signed by Companero Carlos Zarruck, Nicaraguan mines and hydrocarbons minister, and Humberto Calderon Berti, Venezuelan energy and mines ministers who is currently president of the OPEC.

The financing of 30 percent of the petroleum imports from Venezuela is equivalent to $27 million a year, based on the current prices and on the supply of 7,000 barrels a day. (?This agreement was signed) by the FIV general manager and the vice president of the Nicaraguan Central Bank.

The Venezuelan delegation is also made up of (Alidio Parra) of Venezuelan Petroleum, Henry [name indistinct], director of international affairs for the Foreign Ministry, and Rene [name indistinct], of the energy cooperation office.

PLANNING MINISTER DEFINES ECONOMIC PLAN FOR 1981

PA162049 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] In his report on the economic program of efficiency and austerity for 1981 to the workers today, Henry Ruiz, commander of the revolution and planning minister, called for a redoubling of productive efforts and national unity. Commander Ruiz reiterated that the goals outlined in the economic plan for 1980 were 99-percent fulfilled. The production of basic grains was surpassed and the production of traditional export products achieved 95 percent of the goals.

The goals for the industrial program were not met but its development, which registered 90 percent, is acceptable. Lumping the production of agriculture-livestock and industrial production and the programs of services together for 1980, it is estimated that the economic plan for 1980 was 99-percent successful.

Commander Henry Ruiz pointed out the problems we face, such as the traditional foreign debt of $1.2 million, the price drop of our exports in the international market, and the threat of imperialist intervention. At the same time he recognized that in 1980 there were flaws in organization, the financial system and work. He said we need raw materials, machinery, working equipment for national reconstruction, and that this aspect was another problem our economy faces.

The objectives of the economic program, efficiency, and austerity in 1981 are to increase the levels of production to achieve the same level of production as in 1977, especially to boost the industrial sector, which was one of the slowest in 1980. Another objective of this plan is to import fewer products and export as much as possible to attain more foreign exchange. Another fundamental task is to struggle for our economic independence inasmuch as our economy depends on the capitalist countries. Consequently, increased production, organization and planning for 1981 will bring a better policy of distribution among our people, especially for the less favored sectors.

Commander Henry Ruiz said three elements are involved in the development of the economic program for 1981, which is also a year of reactivation.

These are: Our working people, who are the protagonists, the patriotic businessmen, and the international community of solidarity.

He stressed that the workers must increase their work 9 percent. He announced that in 1981 the employment goal is 61,400, thus reducing the rate of unemployment to 13 percent. At present, it is 17 percent because in 1980 some 12,300 more persons were employed. The characteristic of employment in 1981 is that the productive sectors of the country will be reoriented, decentralizing the bureaucratic apparatus.

According to Commander Ruiz, material production in 1980 was 10.9 billion cordobas, and it will be 13.326 billion cordobas in 1981. Services achieved a level of 10.425 billion cordobas in 1980, and in 1981 it is planned to reach a figure of 11.960 billion cordobas. Material production and services produced a total of 21.339 billion cordobas in the gross domestic product in 1980. In 1981, the year of efficiency and austerity, a total of 25.926 billion cordobas is planned, registering an increase of 18.5 percent in the gross domestic product.

The revolution is marching well and has the responsibility of participating in the international community, Commander Henry Ruiz said. Referring to the Salvadoran revolutionary process, he said there are sectors awaiting the defeat of the Salvadoran people, but that we await the triumph of the revolutionary forces, he said.

He also referred to Nicaragua's position in the Central American Common Market. He said Nicaragua's policy this year will be to reduce its imports and increase its exports, to reduce the import and consumption of luxury goods and to permit their importation but with a very rigorous tax policy.

Finally, Planning Minister Henry Ruiz appealed to the workers to unite as a class and strengthen the worker-peasant alliance. He called on all sectors of our country to join the process of national reconstruction to emerge triumphantly in this reconstruction.

The report on the economic program for 1981 was delivered in the Jose Benito Escobar Auditorium of the Sandinist Workers Federation and was attended by more than 1,000 workers. The Nicaraguan labor coordination organization was also present during the event.

FINANCE MINISTER ANNOUNCES 1981 BUDGET FIGURES

PA180325 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] The nation's general budget for 1981 will be approximately 9 billion cordobas. This budget is without precedent in our country, especially considering the high percentage of the budget that the revolutionary Government of Nicaragua will use for social projects.

Finance Minister Joaquin Cuadra will now explain the nation's national budget allocation for 1981:

[Begin recording] [Cuadra] This budget, which has been approved by the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction for 1981, is 8,793,045,384 cordobas.

[Question] Companero Cuadra, what percentage of the national budget will be dedicated to servicing the foreign debt?

[Answer] The public debt comprises both the international and internal debts. The percentage to be used to pay the public debt is 16.03, that is, 1,409,307,000 cordobas. Out of this, 648,564,000 cordobas will be used to service the internal debt. The international debt will be serviced with 760,743,000 cordobas.

[Question] What percentage of the budget has been alloted to the social sector?

[Answer] The social sector, which comprises the Health, Culture, Education and Social Welfare Ministries, as well as subsidies to the Nicaraguan Aqueducts and Sewers Institute, has been allotted 2,518,901,911 cordobas, which represents 28.65 percent of the total budget.

It must be noted that the Health Ministry has been assigned 1,212,916,700 cordobas and the Education Ministry 1,152,754,348 cordobas. These two ministries make up the largest percentage of the 28.65 percent assigned to the social sector out of the national budget. [end recording]

JUNTA MEMBERS DISCUSS FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

PA181801 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 10 Jan 81 p 12

[Excerpts] Daniel Ortega, commander of the revolution and member of the National Reconstruction Government Junta (JGRN), said last night that in Nicaragua the people have the instruments of power in their hands, so that what happened in Chile will never occur here, for there the bourgeoisie conspired alongside other forces and overthrew the national unity government.

JGRN members Dr Sergio Ramirez, Dr Rafael Cordova, Dr Moises Hassan and Commander Ortega held a dialogue on freedom of expression with local and foreign newsmen during the first "Face the People" program of 1981, which was held at the Journalists House.

During the program, there was talk about the ideological defense that certain communications media provide the counterrevolution. These same media later present themselves as victims, when the revolutionaries respond to their reactionary positions.

Dr Ramierz Mercado discussed the subject of freedom of expression in Nicaragua by analyzing the management sector's interpretation of this freedom as a means of exploitation--the way the Inter-American Press Association understands it--and then by analyzing freedom of popular expression, which the revolution sees as guaranteeing the voice of those who never had one under the dictatorship.

Dr Ramirez added that as long as there is a pluralist society in Nicaragua, the minority's right to air its backward and reactionary ideas is also guaranteed, for this is what the Sandinist people's democracy is all about--giving them the freedom to talk as long as they do not take away the conquests that the people have obtained under the revolution.

A newsman participating in the program asked about the meaning that the revolution gives to the term freedom of expression. Commander Ortega interpreted this as an instrument of expression in accordance with the interests of the people.

He added that under the dictatorship there was freedom of expression for those who had power, who owned the communications media. With the victory of the revolution, freedom of expression has gained a new image. For the first time in the history of Nicaragua, people are participating in the various communications media and newsmen have been guaranteed an honorable form of work, rather than exploitation and subjugation, as was the case in the past.

There was also talk about the struggle that must be waged through the NEW NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY. It was suggested that it should be strengthened and improved as a means of daily counteracting the transnationals' information activities.

The JGRN members recognized the newsmen's participation in Nicaragua's liberation process. Today their new commitment is that of reporting on and defending the revolution from the ideological attacks of its enemies.

The newsmen who fell during the struggle against the dictatorship--Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal, Manuel Diaz y Sotelo, Alvaro Montoya and Aura Ortiz--were remembered.

The newsmen's delicate and outstanding professional practice was stressed, as this is felt through their daily reports.

MEDIA AUTHORIZED TO REPORT ON BANANA TALKS

PA211903 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 14 Jan 81 pp 1, 5

[Text] The following has been received from the Communications Directorate addressed to all news media in the country:

In the national interest, we believe that the peoole should be informed of the negotiations regarding the country's banana production. Therefore, communique No 1 dated 5 January 1981 issued by this directorate is hereby abrogated.

Issued in Managua on 13 January 1981. Communications Directorate.

EDEN PASTORA DISCUSSES IMPORTANCE OF MILITIAS

PA211551 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 13 Jan 81 pp 1, 5

[Text] "We have to guarantee 200,000 more militiamen than those which are already organized within the Sandinist People's Militias (MPS), responding to the slogan of: Every Sandinist, a Militiaman."

This was said by Brigade Commander Eden Pastora Gomez, national chief of the MPS, during a lengthy interview granted to BARRICADA on the development achieved, the problems faced and the prospects of the MPS in the year of defense and production.

"The militias," he said, "on a par with the armed forces, arc the guarantors of the defense of the revolution, the guarantors of our defense."

"Without militias, without a people who are organized, armed and trained," he said, "we will not be able to defend our sovereignty and our process because this country cannot be defended with 30,000 men, but only by all the people."

Organization in the Hands of the Masses

Commander Pastora said that one of the problems faced by the militias last year was the fact that the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) provided not only the training, but was also in charge of organization.

This Undoubtedly caused a delay in the effort. This is why the mass organizations will now be in charge of organizing the militias, while the army will be exclusively responsible for training.

The Farmworkers Association (ATC), the Sandinist Workers Federation (CST), the 19 July Sandinist Youth, the Sandinist Defense Committee (CDS), and so forth will be directly in charge of organization as well as of resolving relatively minor problems such as transportation, which, by the way, was another factor which greately limited the efforts of the MPS in 1980.

With the Students

Eden Pastora especially emphasized that this year the militias will receive vigorous support among the youths, primarily among the country's students.

The task of organization will of course fall to the 19 July Sandinist Youth, while in the military aspect, the national MPS headquarters is preparing a detailed plan on the activities to be carried out during the year with the students.

It should be noted here that since the minimum age for joining the militias will be 16, many of the students joining will be minors. It has therefore been decided that these students will need their parent's permission to join.

The Territorial Militias

As far as the working class is concerned, last year the MPS received a greater response from the urban workers than from peasants and farmworkers.

"This is partly explained by the geographical dispersion of our peasants," Pastora said. He added that this problem will be countered by the creation of the territorial militias.

In other words, large goegraphical zones will be created and each of them will have a military instructions center, which will not only bring progress to the rural areas, but also the cities. Even Managua will be divided into sevel large zones to avoid the transportation problem.

"In the case of the peasants, we will also have enormous assistance from the ATC," Commander Pastora said.

Self-Criticism

Asked what was the greatest problem faced in 1980, Eden Pastora did not hesitate to state that "we were sincerely unable to channel all the people's enthusiasm toward the militias, mostly because of a lack of sufficient interest on the part of the EPS."

"Many companeros in the EPS," Pastora said, "saw the militias as a cute idea, but nothing more, when they actually constitute the strategic base for the defense of the revolution."

The MPS national chief said, however, that this lack of interest was being overcome. At the same time, he called on all the people 'not to lose their high morale or enthusiasm, since the last thing that a Sandinist should lose is his morale."

Eden Pastora also said that many military instructors of the militias "had acted as if they wanted to obtain athletes for the Olympics" with excessively hard physical training without distinction to age or physical condition and that "this discouraged many people."

He announced that "the DPS military cadres are now going to be in charge of the instruction. It will be a scientific military training. We will combine close order with preparation for combat."

In answer to another question, Commander Pastora refused to disclose the number of reserve battalions that have been formed so far and those that will be organized this year.

"That is a military secret," he said, adding only that "we will have dozens of battalions. In the case of an aggression, they will form our second line of defense and in case an aggression does not take place they will guarantee production, help out in natural disasters and so forth."

"Look," Pastora said smiling, "all by itself the Ezequiel Brigade guaranteed the harvest of coffee in the north. Yes, as soon as it arrived, the counterrevolutionary bands left running."

The deputy national commander of the MPS is now Serafin Garcia who replaced Emmet Lang who has been appointed to other functions.

Garcia interrupted Commander Pastora to issue a call to all Nicaraguans to join the MPS.

He said that the only requirements for being a militiaman are those of age (older than 16 and less than 45 with some exceptions) and not having participated in the Somozist corruption and repression. "Except for this, all the people can be members of the militias," Commander Serafin said.

Questioned about the readiness of the MPS in the face of a possible foreign aggression against Nicaragua, Commander Pastora said that "our people are ready to defend their revolution to the final consequences."

"The people," he said, "defend a revolution which has carried out among other things, a literacy campaign, the development of housing programs, and the distribution of sugar to everyone and so forth."

"The people," he added, "defend the most popular of all revolutions of the world. That is why the MPS states: National Directorate, you order!"

DEFENSE MINISTRY ISSUES DETAILS ON BORDER ATTACKS

Border Patrol Attack

PA171623 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Defense Ministry communique]

[Text] The Defense Ministry announces that once again a band of former Somozist guardsmen came from Honduran territory and ambushed a patrol of border guards, members of the Sandinist People's Army. This occurred at 1140 on Thursday, 15 January, in Los Cedros, Cinco Pinos Municipality, Chinandega Department.

The group entered less than 200 meters beyond the boundary line located in the Guasaule River, carrying Galil rifles, M-16's and other weapons, and unexpectedly attacked the border guard patrol. Companeros Jesus Lopez and Samuel Cuadra were injured, and Cuadra died as a result of the bullet wounds. Immediately after this, the former Somozist guardsmen crossed the border and gathered in Ruben Mondragon's farm, in Honduran territory, where they receive support for their cowardly attacks.

Once again we indignantly denounce this situation, which the defenders of our Sandinist People's revolution are killed with inpunity.

Managua, year of defense and production.
Public Relations Office of the Foreign Ministry [as heard]

Border Post Attack

PA201727 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] The Defense Ministry has denied, and at the same time explained, a report filed by our correspondent in Nueva Segovia regarding an ambush by former Somozist guardsmen who took refuge in Honduras on the border post at El Limon. According to the report, one of the border guards died.

Roberto Sanchez, official spokesman of the Defense Ministry said that the details of the report were not precise since they had not come from the competent authorities and could have alarmed the relatives of the 800 militiamen of the Ezequiel Brigade who are rendering voluntary service to defend the fatherland's sovereignty and domestic peace.

The source explained that the sudden attack on Sandinist soldiers by a group of 10 armed Somozists occurred at the San Francisco border post. As a result of the criminal attack, the brothers Francisco and Domingo (Meza) Salinas and Santamaria Mena Gomez were slightly wounded. When our soldiers replied with courage and determination, the attackers fled toward the neighboring nation to the north, whose authorities have been unable to control these groups of assassins.

An attack occurred last week in the area of Guazaule, another point along the extensive Honduran-Nicaraguan border.

WHEELOCK ASKS FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HARVEST COTTON

PA211823 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock Roman this afternoon reported during a news conference that there is a manpower shortage for the cotton harvest in western Nicaragua. The Sandinist leader said this had been foreseen in 1980 and that harvesting machines had been imported from various Central American countries.

The Ministry of Farming and Livestock Development and Agrarian Reform has 75 harvesting machines which can pick from 25,000 to 30,000 manzanas, Commander Wheelock pointed out. The causes of this manpower shortage were described by Commander Wheelock as being of a political, social and natural nature.

These factors include: coffee ripening this year coinciding with cotton; reconditioning of the work forces across the nation; no migration of manpower from Central American countries as in the past.

The revolutionary leader stressed that cotton picking is the duty of all those who consider themselves Nicaraguans. We are not only thinking of picking cotton in the people's property area, but also the cotton belonging to small, medium and large producers, he said.

Also, beginning on Monday, immediate vactions have been decreed for all high school students in Leon and Chinandega so that they can help, in a mass and orderly manner, in the task of picking cotton, which this year will bring the nation the most foreign exchange.

Commander Wheelock appealed to the mass organizations and all the patriotic sectors of the nation to volunteer to work at well-paid jobs at the cotton plantations so as not to lose this social wealth which will greatly help to achieve the nation's economic independence.

FARMING MINISTRY, AGRARIAN REFORM INSTITUTE MERGED

PA211820 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] The merging of the Ministry of Farming and Livestock Development and the Nicaragua Agrarian Reform Institute was announced today in what in the future will be called (MIR).

The announcement was made by Jaime Wheelock Roman, commander of the revolution and minister in charge of this portfolio, who in addition made a patriotic appeal for participation in the cotton harvest and affirmed that plans in the farming and livestock area for 1980 had been accomplished by almost 100 percent.

CASTRO MARKS TERRITORIAL MILITIA UNITS' FORMATION

FL202300 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2119 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Speech by Cuban President Fidel Castro at ceremony marking the formation of Granma Province territorial militia units, held in Guisa, Granma Province--live]

[Text] Dear comrades in the territorial militias; dear comrades of Guisa, Bayamo, Granma and Cuba: The movement initiated for the purpose of setting up the territorial militias in the shortest length of time possible is a new and convincing demonstration of the energy and revolutionary consciousness of our people, of their will to resist, defend their conquests and realize their motto: production and defense.

The essence of the complex international situation at present is that it is precisely today that a new administration took office in the United States, an administration whose principal members have made statements that virtually put them at the head of the most reactionary sectors that encourage retaliation and try to restore imperialist domination over a world and circumstances that reflect very deep and essentially irreversible changes. Therefore, today, 20 January 1981, while over there in the United States a government that represents a threat to peace and to the most vital interests of the large majority of the U.S. people takes office amid the pomp and glitter characteristic of decadent empires, notwithstanding the millions of unemployed and forsaken and of the uncertainty in which many more millions of persons live at present in that country, here we are setting up the Bayamo and Guisa territorial militias with the modesty, austerity, simplicity, human warmth, patriotism and solidary spirit of the workers, in an atmosphere of effort, toil, creativity, struggle against backwardness, underdevelopment and the sequels of oppression, moved by a national awareness that we must make the country go forward for the well-being of everyone, for the consolidation of our achievements in benefit of the masses, and determined to preserve what we have, what we have won and the future we are forging, fully confident in the future, in the moral forces and reserves of our people, encouraged by the support of the world revolutionary movement, the socialist community, the best of humanity. [applause]

Thus from one end of our country to the other, with the patriotic and revolutionary conviction embodied in the oath which you have taken today, this process of the territorial militias moves forward to bring more depth and solidity to our defense system. This is our answer to imperialist threats. [applause]

Our combat experience and that of other brother peoples are in evidence in the steps we are taking to organize the militias, especially in determing their structure, outfitting, appointment and combative missions. In the report to the second congress of our party, we noted the essential aspects of the territorial militias. We would like to take this opportunity today to talk about their organization. We conceive the territorial militias as one more force, voluntary and selective, comprised by men and women, workers, peasants, students, by all who are able to fight and are not part of the regular troops reserves or the civil defense. In forming this force, the principle that the defense of the fatherland is a right and duty of all Cubans, men and women, is fulfilled. This is a principle that we can now see materialized. Young workers, peasants, students who have not yet been called to active military duty, workers who--because of their role in production--cannot be away from the factories, and our heroic and spirited revolutionary women who have always shown their capacity, perseverance and courage--they too will find a combat post in the territorial troops.

The structure of the territorial militias [applause] is formed on the basis of small units and units at the level of battalion and regiment in municipalities and provinces where their officers will be headquartered. So as to strengthen the work in connection with the territorial militias, FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] officers adjunct to the presidents of the people's government have been appointed. All the territorial militia units will come under a single defense plan designed by the armies which will issue the combat missions.

In some regions of the country, especially in densely populated areas or areas with special characteristics, units with various designations will be formed and trained such as groups to participate in the construction of fortifications, obstacles and other (?related) jobs, communications, repairs, supply, chemical defense and other combative and protective services.

As to the heads of regiments, which are more complex structures, their officers will be FAR officers who have command training and experience. The rest of the cadres for the territorial militias will be selected from among the members of the units themselves on the basis of the qualities shown by the comrades. In all cases, these comrades will receive immediate training which will be systematized as circumstances permit. In fact, in the [word indistinct] and other centers for military (?training) of the FAR, intensive courses have begun which provide basic know-how.

As to the training of units, these will be trained by means of classes on combative training during free time, study groups and other forms of instruction.

The territorial militias come into being in the same manner that the people's armies created by the Cuban people have historically come into being. The militias come into being as did the Mambi Army, as did the detachment that attacked Moncada, as did the rebel army and the militias of the first years of the revolution. This is the deep political meaning of the national campaign to collect funds necessary to defray all expenses without affecting the country's development plans. This process reminds us of those days when collections were made by different means to acquire weapons, airplanes and agricultural equipment to implement the agrarian reform. I also remember the most legitimate militia traditions.

Combatants in the first militia units [applause] armed themselves at first as best they could. Those first groups exemplified the gamut of light arms production. At the beginning the militias procured their weapons as best they could. Uniforms and regulation arms followed. Legislation on arms possession was issued. At present, the possibility that each individual might obtain them on their own no longer exists. We do not have arms for 10 million Cubans at present. Nevertheless, we must all prepare, organize and train ourselves as the rebel army did [applause] because though there are not enough weapons today, there may be more than enough tomorrow, because the enemy brings them in and we shall know how to wrest them away from the enemy. [applause, chants of "Fidel, for sure, hit the Yankees hard."]

Actually, all indications are that the money collected, because of the systematic way that the committees carry out these drives, and because of the emulations between municipalities, will enable us to fulfill the expectation of total self-financing for the militias which, in addition to weapons, need places to train and educate personnel: firing ranges, testing grounds, warehouses, training material and camp equipment in general.

Among the main missions of the territorial militias both in peacetime and time of war, is the mission to replace and complement the FAR's regular units whose combat readiness so requires. Because of their knowledge of the terrain and their mobility, the territorial troops units will be especially helpful against paratroop landings, in dealing with diversionist groups, in participating, along with regular troops, in combative actions, insuring FAR units movement itineraries, guarding and protecting factories, work centers, bridges, raiways, crossroads and installations of all kinds, and carrying out irregualr war missions in the case of occupied territories.

Militias are as old as wars of aggression. [applause] They are the resources par excellence to which peoples resort to face these wars. They are an especially appropriate force for defense. They are workers fighting for their factories, residents defending their neighborhood, citizens guarding their property--the property of the people--and making their convinctions and ideals prevail. The strength of the revolution--it is fitting that we repeat this--lies above all in the people, in the fact that we can count on a firmly established party with close ties to the people, with mass organizations capable of achieving their aims, with prestigious government institutions whose capacity systematically improves, with a developing economy and with modern armed forces and reserves which, because of their number, organization, level of equipment, campaign training, efficiency and combative experience, are a force to be feared.

The territorial militias are called upon to support and guarantee [applause] the missions assigned to our glorious and undefeated Revolutionary Armed Forces [applause, indistinct slogans followed by "vivas" and chanting] Our military doctrine prepared during years of intensive work responds to the demands of contemporary fighting, to the probable nature of the enemy's actions and to the characteristics of the theater of operations. The organic structure of the FAR is suited to this doctrine as is the concept behind our entire defense system. We are a threatened country, and an island to boot. Hence, from the viewpoint of the country's defense, we define defense against landings as the most important thing. This defense is foreseen as resistant, active, echeloned throughout the nation and skillfully combined with vigorous and timely offensive actions. Land troops, the navy and the DAAFAR [Antiaircraft Defense and Revolutionary Air Force] have the necessary means and training to carry out the combative operations and actions assigned to them. The territorial troops units are the ideal complement to this system, which ensures the country's defense from the least accessible places to points in the interior. There will be no unprotected corner. There will be no place where the enemy will not find tenacious and firm resistance. There will be no fronts. For a combatant, whether in the regular troops, civil defense or territorial troops, the front will be there where the enemy is. [applause]

But the defense of the country is not exclusively military. It is above all a series of political and economic measures designed to create the conditions necessary to face all dangers and obtain victory. Among these measures, increasing production is of vital importance to give the country all that is necessary and to set up reserves of food, fuel and raw materials. Producing and saving make us stronger. The conditions for greater security are created. To produce more now will enable us to better face, if the need arises, the stages during which production will inevitably drop as a consequence of aggression. It will help to fulfill the motto that--in case of aggression--would constitute the bases, the basic task, of all the country's institutions and all Cubans: production for defense and work for victory. [applause]

So that this process, under such circumstances, will take place successfully, many factors must be favorable. Firstly, [we must have] the cooperation of the state's central administrative organs, the people government's organs, the mass organizations, which must play an important role in the location of labor resources to replace the mobilized personnel in production, and, above all, the party, which will direct all the activities and resolve innumerable practical problems on the spot. At this time. [applause] When we are involved in the process of forming the territorial militias, we want to emphasize that it is necessary to continue to give full attention to the regular units of our armed forces and their reserves, which are the fundamental nucleus of the country's defense potential. We must continue to strengthen [applause] combative training and readiness, the training of their members and the advanced training of their cadres. Should it be necessary, we would first have to complete the regular units, assign to them the economic resources needed, and then complete the remainder. [applause]

It is impossible to be here in this place with you, the combatants of the 603d Regiment and the combatants of the Guisa Battalion, both men and women, to meet with the people of Guisa in this historic place near the Sierra Maestra, and fail to recall past history. [applause]

From the birth of the nation, from the first struggle for independence in 1968 [as heard] to the present, our fatherland's experience in the course of more than 100 years shows that a nation cannot neglect its defense. [applause] That is the most consistent lesson from our history. In 1868 we were unable to defeat the enemy after 10 years of fighting although our people did not achieve victory then fundamentally because of subjective factors: the unfortunate divisions in the ranks of our Mambi Army and our incipient republic. As Marti said [applause]: The divisions defeated us more than did the enemy. And divisions have defeated us more than once in our history, except in this final stage of our revolution. [applause] History taught us another lesson: The need for unity above all--the second lesson. And it was the unity of the revolutionary forces and our people which gave our revolution its characteristic invincible force from Moncada and, especially, from 1 January 1959 on. [applause]

Again in 1895 our people launched another war for our fatherland. And if they did not obtain full victory then it was because of external factors. [shouts of "long live free Cuba", "long live the armed forces", "long live Fidel" answered by "viva" each time; applause] The metropolis [Spain] was bent on recognizing its defeat and paved the way for U.S. intervention. Then almost 30 years of heroic struggle were thwarted by the presence of a foreign, imperialist power that was able to afford the luxury of directly occupying this country for 4 years and then leaving behind a puppet government in place at the service of its own interests. The imperialist power imposed navy bases on us in addition to a constitutional amendment which gave it the right to intervene here whenever it felt like it. In other words, every time that its interests were threatened by the people's struggles. In the course of these 50-odd years of false republic, they controlled our lives, our destiny, our economy. They were the masters. By directly or indirectly intervening or by participating in the political processes of the country, they prevented victory in 1933. They imposed tyrannies, crimes and corruption on us.

They supported with all means possible the henchmen of the various tyrannical governments, the last of them being Batista's. This forced us to the struggle once more. This forced us to repeat the history of 1868, of 1895 and of 1933. This led us to the armed and people's struggle to attain once and for all--and we say it in this manner, once and for all and forever--our definitive freedom, our definitive independence [applause], the freedom and independence that our people needed to build their future, to work as owner of the land and owner of the natural resources, of the factories, owner of their work, and for a better future.

In those days of 1959 our generation had the privilege to see the fruits of all those dozens and dozens of years of struggle. The Yankees did not even allow Calixto Garcia the right of entering the city of Santiago de Cuba with his troops. Our rebel army had the privilege of entering the city of Santiago de Cuba and all other cities of the country. [applause] This placed on our shoulders an extraordinary responsibility. How were we going to use that opportunity? And how were we going to defend it? The struggle did not end in 1959. It is well known by all of you the actions of imperialism in all fields to stabilize--as it is called today--the revolution. To promote subversion, the sabotage production.

We know all the crimes perpetrated by them from the very beginning, starting with the first teachers who were murdered, those teachers who were teaching how to read and write in the fields and mountains where for centuries no teacher had ever visited. The piratical attacks, the mercenary invasions such as Giron, the uprising of criminals, the threats of direct intervention and other activities by imperialism forced us from the very first day of the revolution's triumph to prepare ourselves.

We soon found out that the arms we seized from the Batista army, which were some tens of thousands, perhaps 70,000 or 80,000--they had sufficient for what they were using them for, because they were not at war against any superpower but against the people--we soon found out that those arms were not enough when our country had to face up to an enemy as mighty as the United States. From the very beginning we had to purchase weapons. In that manner, for example, we had arms arriving from Europe, one of which was sabotaged, the case of the freighter La Coubre in which nearly 100 soldiers and workers were killed. Of course, once our arms began coming from the socialist camp and the Soviet Union [applause], no other vessel exploded. Since then, quite a few vessels have arrived to our coasts loaded with arms.

Our country not only was capable of defending itself, the development of our combat capability and our awareness made it possible in certain instances even to fulfill brilliant internationalist missions, such as Angola and Ethiopia. [applause]

Can we neglect our defense now? Precisely now [shouts of "no" in the crowd] when reactionary elements and elements of the extreme right have assumed power in the United States? When they have talked about, stated and uttered threats against our country throughout the electoral campaign and in publications, declarations, studies and writings, and have talked about possible blockades, not only economic but even military. They have talked about possible interventions here. Are we going to neglect our defense? No. [shouts of "no" in the crowd]

We are going to apply the lessons learned from history. We are going to apply the lesson that a nation can never neglect its defense. And the 112 years of struggle of our people have taught us that lesson, that the defense cannot be neglected. On the other hand, we do not like to be threatened. We do not like it one bit. That is the truth. I do not know who they are attempting to frighten with this. I believe that today it is a bit difficult to try to intimidate the Cuban people. That policy of threat against Cuba that has been proclaimed is what has led us to the need to doubling our defensive effort, doubling it or triple it. [applause]

We are going to prepare ourselves to defend the country. When we say to defend the country, we are not fooling around. We know what it is to defend the country. We know that if we are determined to defend the country, no one will ever become owner of this land. No aggressive force will ever be owner of this land. [applause] The cities might disappear, might be destroyed, but never taken as long as there is a single combatant. [applause] Our fields, our mountains could be invaded, but never occupied as long as there is a single combatant. In any of these hills, under any of these trees, or even in places where there are no trees--the people of Western Sahara are struggling in the midst of the desert where there is not even a patch of grass--as long as we have these mountains, as long as there are combatants, our country will not be occupied. [applause]

But this willingness is not enough, we have to prepare ourselves for such a possibility. Do we lack a tradition of struggle? Have we not accumulated a considerable amount of experience throughout the history of our people? Is it not true that the men making up our more experienced cadres, whether in the armed forces, party and the state, know what struggle means. When we speak here, we do so with great assuredness and we base ourselves on our own experience, on our own history.

In very few places such as this, in very few provinces such as this one can we talk with such propriety regarding that experience. [applause] It was in Granma itself that the struggle began for independence in 1868. In 1895, this was one of the first places where the fighting began. The landing of the yacht Granma took place in Granma Province and, with it, the 82 members of the expeditionary force.

Our first battles took place in Granma. We had our first setbacks and our greatest difficulties in Granma. In Granma we had the support and encouragement of the people. But we were very few. I do not know what would have happened and how long Batista's army would have lasted if we would have had these troops standing here in the Sierra Maestra. [applause] If we would have had those thousand and more automatic weapons you have. Perhaps, we would have had to set the rifles to shoot single shots because I believe we would have run out of bullets.

But we were very few. As we recently said in Manzanillo, we had seven rifles at the beginning. Among all of us there was not a single automatic weapon. We had a submachine gun. No, no even that. That submachine gun we found months later. We had seven bolt-action rifles. I say it because I am convinced that what is important is the basic idea of a combatant, the objectives of a combatant, the combatants' ties with the people. The enemy was very powerful, extremely powerful. They had some 70,000 to 80,000 men. We had to live those 25 months of war with seven rifles at the beginning to 3,000 armed men at the end.

Little by little we trained. Little by little we gained experience from each day of struggle. From the beginning, when we did not have any experience and at the end we were playing games with the enemy troops.

We were forcing them to do what we wanted them to do in order to defeat them. At the end they were behaving that way. They were doing what we wanted them to do. They moved toward the areas we wanted them to move to. They would move when we wanted them to move and through the area we wanted. [applause] A very interesting characteristic of our revolutionary history is this one. I said we had some 3,000 men with arms of which very few were automatic. Of those weapons, which some day the historians will be able to determine the exact number, of those weapons, 90 percent were taken from the enemy in the battle. We received some small shipments of weapons, very small. Perhaps the largest one amounted to 150 rifles, which arrived after the battle of Guisa, during the last 3 weeks. By then our troops were already in Santa Clara, dividing the island in two. The offensive was developing very vigorously. The exact number is not very far off, that is 90 percent of the weapons we had at the end of the war was taken from the enemy in battle. This is very important.

We knew the price of the weapons. Our philosophy was always that the enemy army had the weapons. That was the Moncada philosophy. We went there to seize the weapons of one regiment. Throughout the war of liberation that was the principle. Many times we engaged in combat not to kill soldiers but to seize weapons. Our objective was to arm ourselves. That was the fundamental objective. While doing that, enemy soldiers were also being killed. That was not a bad thing. In the end they had to die. [applause] There was no other way out.

We used to gauge the success of a battle by the number of dead soldiers. Once 25 of our comrades ambushed the enemy near Pilon and inflicted 70 casualties, mostly killed. They destroyed trucks full of soldiers, but were unable to seize weapons in that instance. There were other trucks coming and they had to disperse. It was a good group of comrades but did not have sufficient experience. They were unable to seize weapons. We did not believe it was a victory. The enemy suffered 70 casualties. We had none but did not seize a single rifle. We used to guage the success of the military operations by the number of weapons seized. That is the way in which we were able to arm ourselves.

I mention this because it should continue to be our philosophy. Today we have weapons, quite a few of them. It can be said that we have more than enough weapons, good weapons. [applause] But they are not sufficient. There are not enough so that each Cuban may have a rifle. That is why at the party congress we said we needed a rifle, a grenade, something in our hands. Perhaps a machete. A machete used properly can become a powerful weapon, something to be feared. But the enemy has weapons. We must keep in mind not only the arms we have but also those we can seize from the enemy.

As long as there are seven armed men in this country, they have to remember the page of history to which we have just referred. [applause] Not even seven, as long as there is a single man with a rifle, a submachine gun, he must remember what I have talked about. A single weapon can become many. The enemy had much better weapons than we had and an unlimited supply of ammunition. They had aircraft, artillery and tanks. Of course, they also had many 50-caliber and 30-caliber machine guns and so forth. They had all the supplies they needed. In reality all we had was rifles and land mines. We conducted the war with rifles and land mines. And most of the rifles were the bolt-action type.

We used to manufacture the land mines with the TNT of the unexploded bombs. No one supplied us with dynamite or explosives. Maybe we received a few wires and detonators from outside. That is all we needed because they were dropping so many bombs and about 10 percent did not explode. I am still unable to explain how one of those bombs did not explode, because our people knew nothing about them. The truth of the matter is that they were digging them out with picks and shovels. They used to disarm them using hammers. I certainly can say that, with hammers. None of them were specialists or engineers. They were combatants using their own common sense and great courage. They would dig the bombs out and disarm them. That was the dynamite we were using and used throughout the entire war.

I say this because it is very important to stress the idea that the patriot, the revolutionary combatant must use not only his weapons but those of the enemy as well as its resources. [applause] Who can fight in this area better than you? Those of the battalion. The peasants of this mountain who even know where the mosquito lays its eggs, as the saying goes. They know everything, where each rock is. What can the enemy do here against men and women such as you? What can the enemy do in the town, outside town or near the town?

The idea is to prepare ourselves for regular as well as irregular war, the two types. [applause] If they have a way of making the island disappear from the face of the world, then we will disappear, we will disappear from the face of the world. But no enemy will ever succeed in conquering us, subjugating us or making us surrender. Imperialism simply cannot do it. [applause]

Precisely this place where we have gathered reminds us of one of the boldest and rashest actions of our rebel army. At the end of the offensive, the last one launched against the Sierra Maestra, our own counteroffensive was initiated. The various columns left from the Sierra Maestra with the weapons taken from the enemy. These columns were in addition to the ones that had left earlier to form the second eastern front and Santiago de Cuba front. We had about 300 weapons when the offensive began. And when the Batista offensive, that big offensive, ended we had 805 weapons. We had almost tripled our weapons. This was done in a few days. It was not a long time; in about 50 days. Actually, the battles of the last offensive lasted 70 days.

All the columns had gone and we were left with a platoon of 30 men and 1,000 unarmed recruits. We began picking up a few platoons. We wanted to seize the company that was in (Las Minas de Boisito) but they escaped quickly. They were the only troops [Batista] had near the Sierra Maestra.

Some soldiers--almost a company--of the tyranny rebelled and gave us their weapons. We told them that we did not want them to fight because they were not needed. We told them: Give us your weapons. You should not fight against your former comrades. Leave that task to us.

And they gave us about 60 rifles. We had about 180 men when we arrived in Guisa. And on this region of Bayamo and surrounding areas, the enemy had 5,000 of its best troops. Therefore, a struggle of a different scope took place here in Guisa. Our forces were composed mostly of recruits. They were new personnel. Our more experienced troops had left for the various fronts. And that was how the combats took place in Guisa. They lasted 10 days. I believe it is a history known to you.

However, it is worthwhile to note the fact that the battle began with 180 men against an enemy that had around 5,000 soldiers. And what did we have? Rifles and mines. We had nothing else. It was the first time that we had to fight along a paved highway. Placing a mine on a dirt road is not the same as on a paved highway. we also were faced with that annoying bridge, which is not a bridge but an elevated dirt road. And blowing up a bridge is not the same as blowing up a dirt road.

Yes, we had some mortars. But do you know how many rounds of ammunition? We had 15 rounds of ammunition for the mortars when we arrived here in Guisa. They were 81-mm mortars. We had to consider when we should use them because we could not use this ammunition from the start.

There was a company in this city and it was surrounded. We used minimum forces to surround the enemy garrison and devoted most of our forces against the reinforcements. The battle of Guisa, therefore, was not against the company that was deployed here. It was against the reinforcements from Bayamo.

They controlled two important roads and other secondary roads. It was necessary to seize all the roads and to deploy our main forces in the direction from which the reinforcements would certainly be coming. They used to like the big roads, especially when they had to travel in trucks and tanks.

The fighting began here against a patrol that came here every day, [patrolling] from Guisa to Bayamo. Of course, the patrol was eliminated in a matter of minutes.

The first 23 weapons were taken from that patrol. After that first fight, we had 203 armed men instead of 180. We began seizing weapons from the enemy throughout the battles and we even seized a tank intact and in perfect condition. No one knew how to drive it, to tell you the truth, and no one knew how to handle its gun. I think that today if you were to seize a Yankee tank in combat you would not have the problems we had. We had to carry out tests at night to figure out how to fire the tank's gun. We had to place a comrade on a white horse in front of the tank to determine alignment of the gun sight and gun barrel. We had to make some test firing. And we asked ourselves: Where do we aim it? Well, we said, let us aim it at the command post and see if the shelling reaches there--that was the Bayamo command post.

On one occasion, a complete battalion with two tanks was surrounded. The enemy then not only was faced with the Guisa garrison surrounded but also the battalion, and it had to send reinforcements to rescue the battalion that itself had come as reinforcement. It had to send reinforcements to rescue the reinforcement.

There is an important event. It concerns that hill which had no name and today is known as Coronu Hill. It played an extremely important role. [applause] We had about a platoon on that hill which was very close to the city. Since the infantry could not pass as long as we controlled that hill, the tanks also could not pass because the enemy knew we had mines and if the infantry could not move ahead removing the mines, the tanks could not pass because they would be blown up. The remains of a blown-up tank, the first one destroyed there, are still there. And from that hill, our infantry troops with their rifles did not let the enemy infantry pass. And, of course, the ones handling the mines were able to keep their positions.

Although we had neither rifles nor mines [as heard, presumably not enough of them], they--with their tanks, artillery and airplanes--could not pass through that highway. That lasted around 10 days.

Comrade Coronu ordered that 200 foxholes be dug--at least 10 foxholes for each man he had there--to defend themselves from different positions. At a certain point, the position was quite difficult and it was necessary to ask for volunteers. There were more than enough volunteers to defend the position, and a squad from the Mariana Grajales women's platoon was among the volunteers. [applause] In other words, a squad of women participated with the men on that extremely difficult hill, in that difficult position.

They resisted 10 days of bombings because over the 10 days that the battle of Guisa lasted, the enemy's air force attacked the different positions from dawn to night. Above all, however, it attacked the position [on that hill] with explosive and incendiary bombs. The artillery attacked that position a lot. The tanks, the Sherman tanks, attacked that position directly. In fact, Coronu was killed by a direct hit from a tank's gun.

However, the position was not abandoned. And, I repeat, most of the combatants there were recruits. Why did those recruits behave so well? Because a tradition already existed. The tradition of struggle against modern weapons, tanks and airplanes was created by the first nucleus of those who remained from the Granma landing and from those who formed the first columns.

Above all, we became strong when the men learned to resist from a position, from a foxhole, the attacks with mortars, artillery and airplanes; when the men learned to resist such attacks and not to move from their positions. We then became strong because we learned that a specific and very important position in a battle could not be taken by the enemy. The infantry could not take it. And the enemy's use of all its most sophisticated weapons could not make our men leave their position.

The combatants of the first columns created that tradition. The new combatants, the ones who went to (Minas del Frio) and the ones who joined the rebel army were loyal to that tradition. They knew they could hold a position, which they did, and behaved valiantly.

This is the importance of the study of history and experiences and the importance of combat traditions because they create a spirit, morale and conviction. And the new recruits also behaved like the most experienced soldiers. They did not have the same experience, but they behaved with as much courage as the veterans did.

And precisely here, they were men and women like you. I have no doubt that many of you have experience. I am not thinking of a 16-year-old student. I am thinking of the old combatants. I am certain that in these militia units there are combatants from the struggles for liberation, combatants from the struggles against bandits and internationalist combatants. Therefore, you have experience. But to those who are totally new and those who have not had combat experience, I remind them of this because I know that they will be as good soldiers as the most experienced. [applause]

At the end of those battles that were waged between 20 and 30 November here in Guisa, our forces had occupied the city. They had caused the enemy more than 200 casualties. We had seized more than 100 weapons from the enemy, including several machine guns, several mortars, bazookas and so forth. We had increased our forces. When we left Guisa, we were more than 300 men with weapons of war. The enemy had suffered a very hard blow. It had been left very demoralized. This made it easy for our subsequent advance along the central highway, from Jiguani to Santiago de Cuba.

The real fact is that the 1,000 recruits were armed in 40 days. Of course, some of them were among the casualties--the killed and wounded. In Guisa, eight comrades were killed and seven wounded or 15 casualties of ours. However, we dealt the enemy at least 15 casualties for each one of ours. After the battle against the surrounded battalion, the enemy took trucks full of dead soldiers. Actually, we caused them a large number of casualties.

I like the example of this battle because it is quite instructive for what we are doing now, which is to prepare ourselves and, above all, not only to train ourselves militarily but also to create a mentality, a consciousness of what a revolutionary combatant is capable of doing and what the people are capable of doing even under very difficult circumstances. [applause]

I brought with me a supplement of the newspaper GRANMA which has published some materials on those times and those events. The one which most impresses me after 20 years is a message addressed to the comrades of Radio Rebelde. They were still over there in the Sierra [Maestra]. We had been unable to move the station. I sent them a message from Guisa. It reads as follows:

Sierra Maestra, 26 November 1958. To all the boys of Radio Rebelde. I am here missing all of you. I already have loudspeakers but I do not have announcers. [Castro stops reading message to say the following] We also used loudspeakers as weapons of war. When we arrived in the garrisons, we began to hold meetings with the soldiers so that they would surrender.

[Castro continues reading message] A powerful transmitter plant will arrive here soon. But nothing works without Eduardo or you. We have a strong line of defense between Bayamo and Guisa. It is like in Jigue, except that here it is at the entrance to Bayamo and the fight is against tanks, but already there is a breakthrough [Boca Arriba]. I do not have the veterans here but the troops are behaving well. Coronu is a lion. He has dug more than 200 foxholes. Picks and shovels everywhere. The people good. All of us entertaining idea of buying many things in Guisa. Embraces to all. [applause]

And it is true. When we entered Guisa on 30 November, the bourgeoisie had a few shops here and they had all kinds of knickknacks, very sophisticated ones. The coffee harvest was ending. And, of course, we did not confiscate anything. It must be said that we purchased and religiously paid for them.

It was the first time that after a long period of time, practically years in the mountains, we had taken anything approaching a city. Let us say that Guisa actually was a city, a small city. It was the first time we had had that opportunity and the idea was fulfilled because we gave permission to the troops--we were slightly more than 300--and they went to the shops and paid for what they bought. They did not loot the shops or anything of the sort. They bought and paid for everything.

In case of an aggression and the shop were a Yankee one, I would not recommend to buy and pay. [applause]

Precisely when I was examining these materials, I found a letter written in the Sierra Maestra regarding the Yankees or the activities of the Yankees. It was a declaration we made. I am not going to read it all. It was in th days when Batista was seeking a pretext for a Yankee intervention here. It was a pretext because they maneuvered and withdrew the garrison from Nicaro which had a Yankee nickel industry. Our troops entered Nicaro and then they decided to send troops to Nicaro. They unquestionably wanted to convert Nicaro into a battlefield.

At the time, [Juan] Almeida's column had captured a jeep in an ambush and held the occupants for a few days--seven Cubans and two Yankees. I believe they were from Texaco. Then a State Department spokesman made very threatening remarks. Those were the days when we were a very small army. In those days, when those statements were made public, we were some 1,000-odd armed men. We were afraid--and this was not an unfounded fear--that they were contriving a pretext to intervene here. Our country did not have the means it has today, the arms it has today, the millions of educated, aware, revolutionary citizens that it has today. It did not have the international support it has today. We were relatively weak. Even so, on that occasion we warned the Yankees to stay out. And we warned them very categorically. Those statements aired by Radio Rebelde on 25 October 1958 prior to our final offensive concluded with these words: It should be made clear that Cuba is a free and sovereign country. We want to have the best relations of friendship with the United States. We do not want to get involved in conflict that cannot be solved through reason and the right of peoples. But if the U.S. State Department continues to be led by the machinations of Mr Smith [presumably then U.S. Ambassador Earl T. Smith] and Batista and falls into the unjustifiable error of involving its country in an act of aggression against our sovereignty, we will know how to defend it in a worthy manner. There are duties to the fatherland [applause] that cannot be set aside whatever the cost. The threats implicit in your latest statements are not worthy of a big and powerful country like the United States. Threats are effective against cowardly and submissive people but never against men who are willing to die in defense of their country. [applause]

Approximately 22 years and 3 months have elapsed since this declaration. We were just a handful of men then. As evidence of the continuity of the revolution's line and of the revolution's thought, we can repeat word for word today this declaration we issued on that 25 October 1958. [applause] Especially these words: There are duties to the fatherland that cannot be set aside whatever the cost. Threats are effective against cowardly and submissive people but never against men who are willing to die in defense of their country. [applause] We should add one word to this: Men and women who are willing to die in defense of their country. [applause]

This is the spirit we want for the combatants of our armed forces, the regular troops, the reserve, the territorial militias and for all revolutionary combatants.

Our force has multiplied extraordinarily since then. And I say this with complete assurance. There is no force in the world capable of subjecting our people. The presence of women [applause] is not something political. Women have enormous combative potential. All the regular troops and much of the reserves are made up of men. Women have not been included in military service. And we have an enormous potential in many young women in excellent physical condition for combat. [applause] The combative capacity of women was demonstrated in our war. It was not easy. Men were very prejudiced then. I remember that when I organized the Mariana Grajales Platoon--I even took part in the training of those comrades--there were rebel combatants who were furious. They did not like the idea of a platoon of women. We had a few M-1's and the M-1 was considered a good weapon. But it was a light weapon. We thought it was an adequate weapon for women. There were some who asked why should they have Springfields and women get the M-1's. I sometimes got a bit annoyed and had to tell some: Because they are better combatants than you are. And the truth was that they showed that they were. [applause]

A large number of women participated in the forces that advanced toward Holguin. Near Holguin, they had a very fierce battle against army troops. This was the platoon of women. Their chief was seriously wounded. As a general rule, a patrol or a platoon had the habit of withdrawing when its chief was wounded. This was not correct but it had become somewhat of a habit when the chief was killed or seriously wounded.

The platoon had attacked a truckfull of soldiers. And the platoon of women was not discouraged in spite of the fact that its chief was seriously wounded. It continued the fight. It destroyed the truck and seized all the weapons. [applause] It was truly exceptional conduct.

Also here I recall the squad of women that remained in that position under a terrible bombardment of artillery and airplanes over a 10-day period.

Therefore, it is not a case of a political question or a simple struggle for equality, although the struggle for equality of course is manifested in this as it is in many other ways. It is a requirement. We have an extraordinary force potential in women as combatants for defense of the country. [applause]

That is why it was decided to have a battalion of women in each regiment of territorial troops and a company of women in each municipal battalion. In other words, each province will have its battalion of women and each municipality will have at least a company of women. [applause]

I sincerely believe that we are establishing a formidable and extraordinary force which will multiply the combat capability of our revolutionary armed forces and of our people.

Comrades, this ceremony today and this oath of allegiance have been very emotional. And the oath has been emotional because of its meaning, its sincerety and its seriousness.

We would not like to find ourselves someday in the need to use this force. Instead, we want peace to prevail not only in our country but throughout the world so that we can devote ourselves to creative work. But there must not be the slightest doubt that we will employ this force if circumstances require it, and this is a fearful and invincible force. [applause]

You have received your pennants and your flags. The Bayamo regiment has received its banner.

From you we expect and we are certain that if someday we find ourselves in the need to fight, you will be capable of emulating and even exceeding the extraordinary heroism of those who between 20 and 30 November 1958 fought in Guisa and liberated the city. [applause] We are certain that you will be equal to the defenders of that hill which today carries the name of Coronu; that you will be equal to the spirit, courage and heroism of the platoon of that captain and of the extraordinary women of the squad that defended that position. [applause]

I know that our people, our soldiers, our reservists and our combatants will fight bravely everywhere in our country, on every corner, on every mountain and in every town and that they will be capable of giving everything for their country. [applause] And we also know that you--combatants of Guisa, combatants of Bayamo and combatants of Granma--will be among the first. [applause]

Fatherland or death, we will win. [shouts of "Venceremos" and applause]

HAVANA REPORTS PRESIDENT REAGAN'S INAUGURATION

FL211852 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] Ronald Reagan was sworn in today as president of the United States in the midst of an acute economic crisis which could do away with the promises made during a multimillionaire electoral campaign.

It was learned that the inauguration ceremony cost some $11 million, according to some sources. Among the promises made by the new U.S. president are a cutback in taxes, reducing the budget and increasing military expenditures. Immediately after being sworn in, Reagan signed the first decree freezing hiring by the federal government.

MPSP REAFFIRMS SOLIDARITY WITH SALVADORAN STRUGGLE

FL211628 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1556 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] On the occasion of the 49th anniversary of the popular uprising in El Salvador led by Farabundo Marti, the Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples [MPSP] has issued a statement reaffirming its unrestricted solidarity with the Salvadoran brothers.

The statement highlights the important recent victories of the Salvadoran revolutionary forces which are organized and united in the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front and Democratic Revolutionary Front. It adds that in the face of repression, crimes and abuses, the revolutionaries of El Salvador along with the rest of the people rise up as a single man in the struggle to defeat the repugnant genocidal regime which has Yankee support.

The MPSP also condemns the Salvadoran dictatorship.

ARRIVAL OF OFFICIAL KOREAN DELEGATION REPORTED

FL191951 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1908 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] Kim Yong-nam, member of the Korean Workers Party Political Committee and Secretariat and chief of the Central Committee's International Department, arrived today in Havana. Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of the PCC Politburo and chief of the Central Committee's General Department of Foreign Relations, welcomed Yong-nam and the delegation accompanying him at the air terminal. The Korean delegation arrived in Cuba en route to Peru on an official visit.

BRIEFS

GDR PARTY DELEGATION--A Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] delegation of economic experts headed by Carl-Heinz [Janson], chief of the SED Central Committee Socialist Economic Management Department, arrived last night in Villa Clara Province. The distinguished visitors were received at the Communist Party of Cuba provincial committee headquarters by Second Secretary Elia Garcia Patino, Economic Department chief Abilio Alfonso, Foreign Relations section chief (Pedro Piloto) and other Villa Clara party economic officials. The two sides exchanged information on socia-ist economic planning and on the decisive participation of party and local government organs in the organization, control and implementation of enterprises and ministries' plans. [Santa Clara Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 20 Jan 81 FL]